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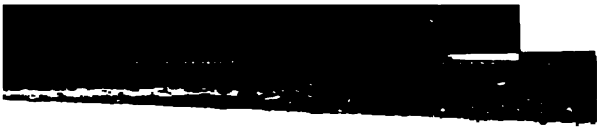

MEMORIALS .
OF HUGH M
MATHESON .

"He serves his country best
Who lives pure life and doeth righteous deed,
And walks straight paths, however others stray,
And leaves his sons as uttermost bequest
A stainless record, which all men may read—
This is the better way"

MEMORIALS OF HUGH M MATHESON

EDITED BY HIS WIFE WITH A PREFATORY NOTE BY THE REV J OSWALD DYKES M.A., D.D

PRINCIPAL OF WESTMINSTER COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

LONDON HODDER AND STOUGHTON 27 PATERNOSTER ROW 1899

Prefatory Note

IT is in compliance with the urgent wish of Mrs. Matheson that I have consented to prefix a few sentences to her Memoir of her late husband. Few of Mr. Matheson's friends who may read these pages will think that any introduction by another hand was called for. The volume is a tribute reared by affection. If any motive less personal has presided over its preparation, it has been a strong desire that the same high principle and Christian faith which governed Hugh Matheson all through his life should be taken as their guide by others engaged like him in business affairs. Happily it is not rare in this country to find commercial men penetrated by the spirit of religion, or commercial prosperity devoted to the service of God and of humanity. But the records which we possess of such examples are not numerous, while the number of those whom such examples may influence is very large. This consideration alone will, it is hoped, justify the publication of the present volume. It can never be without its use to demonstrate by a concrete case that piety

PREFATORY NOTE

usiness ability may be united in an eminent
, or that it is possible to carry through the
udes and temptations of a business career a
nd upright heart, full of humble trust in God.
uld further apology be needful for adding
r to the numerous Memoirs with which the
teems, it may be enough to add that Mr.
son's relations both with the City of London
th the philanthropic and religious enterprises
time had secured for him a wide circle of
to many of whom such a memorial was likely
e welcome.

hese pages Mr. Matheson is allowed to reveal
. The autobiographical materials at com-
were found to be unusually abundant, and

mild and dignified, recalled the old-fashioned courtesy of Highland gentlefolk. Beneath his habitual self-control there could be at times detected a quick, proud, and sensitive spirit—the temper of his Celtic race. On the other hand, his piety shared to the full both in the fervour and in the limitations of an evangelical spring-tide in the north which was in full movement when he left Scotland, of which the results are to-day well-nigh spent. Under the warm breath of that revival his religious life was quickened ere he left Glasgow for the metropolis, and such as it left him he remained to the end.

With that division of the Scottish Church to which he was by conviction as well as by personal ties most warmly attached he kept up a more than usually close correspondence. His religious life retained in consequence its early Scottish character. Indeed, during the half-century of his residence in London Scotland changed more than he did. It is matter of frequent observation that the immigrant Scot is apt to adhere with greater tenacity to the convictions and even to the opinions which he has imbibed in his native land than if he had remained north of the Tweed. I rather think something of this was to be noticed in Hugh M. Matheson. In part it accounted for his conservative attitude as an ecclesiastic. It explained what some would describe as a certain

ty and dread of change in his theological
on.

ne the less must it be ungrudgingly admitted
n his religious sympathies there was nothing
v. He loved all who loved his Lord. Genuine
as he was, no man threw himself with more
tigable zeal than he into the spiritual interests
land of his adoption. Naturally, it was as a
son of the Church of his fathers that he
ed more immediately for the resuscitation in
nd of its ancient Puritan Presbyterianism.
the revival in the second half of the nineteenth
y of what in the seventeenth was a powerful
in the religion and in the Church of England,
me must remain honourably associated. For

a genuine and, he thought, a singularly pure and apostolic branch of the one Church of Christ. His devotion to her interests was compatible with a cordial recognition of every other Protestant and evangelical communion, and with brotherly love for all true followers of the Lord Jesus. Hence his hearty co-operation as a Christian citizen with good men of other persuasions for the advancement of every beneficent enterprise, and for the promotion of the kingdom of God at home or abroad.

In the mind of every English Presbyterian the memory of Hugh M. Matheson is specially linked with the early fortunes of the Church's China mission. No other enterprise on which our small community embarked has attracted in the same degree the notice of sister Churches; and in the conduct of this enterprise, from its organization half a century ago till the day of his death, no other man played anything like so large a part. For a considerable portion of that period his relations to the mission were really unique. It was not merely that he presided over the committee in London which guided the conduct of the work abroad. He was more than an official chief. He threw into the details of administration an amount of painstaking attention which could not be exceeded by that which men bestow on their private business. To a large extent he selected the

agents sent out. He maintained with them, when on the field, a regular correspondence with his own hand; when at home on furlough he opened to them freely the hospitality of his home. Not a hindrance or a perplexity threatened the progress of the mission but he bore it on his heart as a personal burden. Not a forward step or favourable turn of events cheered the missionaries but it awoke in him joyful gratitude to the Divine Head under Whom and for Whom they laboured. As the work grew and its area was widened, the policy which determined each fresh departure was mainly inspired by his sagacious and cautious statesmanship; and I believe the devout tone which has characterized the mission, while it was probably an inheritance in part from its earliest agent, William C. Burns, has also been in large measure sustained and made a tradition by Mr. Matheson's own deep and prayerful piety. That the impress of a single personality upon a Church enterprise should be so strong and so long continued would not be considered under all circumstances desirable or safe, but it answered in this case. The home Church and the mission agents alike trusted their "convener," and felt no misgiving whilst his hand was on the helm.

What justified the trust thus reposed in his leadership was not altogether his wisdom or his love for

the mission, marked as both of these were. It was rather, as I judge, his transparently sincere and pure-hearted devotion to the highest ends of such an undertaking. He sought no by-ends. He cared only for spiritual success. What he longed for was to see the souls of men in China saved from sin by the Gospel of the Redeemer; and for so divine a work he leant on no lower instrument than the grace of the Holy Spirit, given in answer to the prayers of His people. The chapters which follow will have strangely missed the lesson of Hugh Matheson's life if they have not shown that with him both civic virtues and missionary zeal were a pure outflow from his personal attachment to Jesus Christ—the only abiding Source of noble lives.

J. OSWALD DYKES.

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CHAPTER I

Autobiography: Early Life

"Thou hast given me the heritage of name."—*Ps.* lxi. 5.

CHAPTER I

Autobiography : Early Life

HEATHLANDS *October* 1891

I HAVE been led, while sitting alone this autumn, to note down for my children some of the details of my life with which they may not be so well acquainted as they will by-and-by wish to be.

I was born in Edinburgh, at No. 15, Nelson Street, on the 23rd April, 1821, and was the second son of Duncan Matheson, advocate at the Scottish Bar, and Sheriff-Substitute of Edinburgh at Leith. My mother was Annabella Farquharson, daughter of Thomas Farquharson, Esq., of Howden, Midlothian, and grand-daughter of Donald Macleod, of Geanies, Sheriff of Ross-shire. She died in 1829, bequeathing to her children the memory of a singularly sweet and self-denying Christian character.

She had us each alone in her room, and taught us prayers which she had written out. I remember, as if it were but yesterday, kneeling at her bedside shortly before she was taken from us. The last text she gave me to learn was Luke iv. 18–21: "The

Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me," etc., a text of which I have ever since been specially fond, and which was the first from which I spoke at Strathpeffer more than forty years later. In one of my father's letters to me when in Glasgow he wrote as follows, and I quote the passage to show the spirit in which both father and mother sought the highest good of their children.

Having commenced business under such auspices, it will depend on your own steadfastness, attention, and good, trustworthy conduct in the first instance whether you are to be successful in the world or not. Mr. Ewing himself had no greater advantages than you have when he began, and you may by a high tone of honour and integrity, joined to those other qualities of active life which make a man be found useful, and above all with the blessing of God on your endeavour, be equally successful, or at least so much so as should satisfy every reasonable wish. You know, however, that this blessing is only to be attained by constant and regular and earnest supplication at the throne of grace. It is my firm belief that in your case an abundant share of it is conspicuous already in your getting into such a situation, and that it is in a great measure the result of the prayers of a pious mother, who was most exemplary and unwearied in the performance of her duties to her children, and breathed many a fervent prayer on their behalf. I mention this as preparatory to my recommending to you most earnestly to continue the practice of private devotion to which you were so regularly trained, even though removed from my observation and from the parental roof.

Our family consisted of—

Elizabeth (died 1840),	myself,
Isabella,	Thomas, and
Donald,	Annabella Catherine (died in infancy, 1829).

My father was the eldest son of Captain Donald Matheson, of Shiness, County of Sutherland, who, with his ancestors for many generations, had held the estate of Shiness as a wadset, or redeemable property, under the Earls of Sutherland. My father was born at Shiness in 1784. Gaelic was the first language he spoke, his nurse and all the surrounding families being Gaelic. Shiness was redeemed by the Duchess Countess of Sutherland somewhere about the year 1812.

My education was all carried on at day schools, first at Circus Place School when very young, then at Mr. Brown's Academy in Nelson Street, where I had for companions and friends John Mackintosh of Geddes ("the earnest student") and his brother Alick. After Mr. Brown's death I was sent for a short time to Mr. White, North St. David Street, then for one session to Leith High School, and for five years (from 1830 to 1835) to the High School of Edinburgh, my masters being Mr. Lindsay and the Rector, Dr. Carson, the latter for one year only. Finally, for about six months, I attended Mr. Cunningham's Institution in Hill Street, where I derived

very special benefit from Mr. Cunningham's own class on English literature and composition, from the class on history, and from the voluntary class on Saturday for Scripture study.

From the year 1827, the date of my father's appointment to the Sheriffship, we lived at Leith, for most of the time at No. 1, Hermitage Place. We regularly played golf on Leith Links, an excellent place for it in those days. We also played cricket, which about that time was introduced from England. We often bathed in the sea, and enjoyed it most in deep water at the back of Leith Pier.

I remember my father officially proclaiming the accession of King William IV. from the balcony of the Sheriff's Court House in 1830. He afterwards proclaimed Queen Victoria from the same place in 1837. At the time of the Reform Bill there was much popular excitement in Leith, as everywhere else. When the first general election took place under the Bill, my father's friend, John Archibald Murray, who was afterwards made Lord Advocate, was the Liberal candidate, and I remember shouting with the crowd, "Murray for ever!"

When attending the High School of Edinburgh we walked from Leith and back every day, and it was rarely, indeed, that anything prevented our regular attendance. I remember that on one occasion, when there had been a very heavy fall of snow in the night, there were large drifts of deep snow on the Easter Road which were all but impassable. We

managed, however, to get through, and on reaching the school found that very few boys had turned up from Edinburgh!

Among the number of our relatives in Edinburgh, a prominent person was our grand-uncle, Mr. John Mackay of Rockfield, who was blind, and took a warm and affectionate interest in the younger branches. We occasionally read to him the newspaper, or some book in which he was interested. He had been blind since his thirtieth year, but was a well-read and well-informed man, and a most interesting companion. At the age of seventy-two he undertook to write the Life of his kinsman, General Hugh Mackay of Scourie, and published it about four years later. It was admirably done, and contains the record of a life well worth knowing, equally distinguished for military talents of a high order and for sterling Christian principle. He was Colonel-Commandant of the Scottish Brigade in the service of Holland, and afterwards Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Scotland in 1689 and 1690. King William attended his funeral, and so soon as his remains were laid in the grave he exclaimed, "There he lies, and a braver or better man he has not left behind him." A member of our family visiting Walmer Castle during the wardenship of the Duke of Wellington was struck by finding the *Memoir of General Mackay* one of the few books that lay on the Duke's table. It is from the General that my own name of Hugh Mackay is derived.

In a second edition of General Mackay's Life there is a short but most interesting memoir of the author, who had by that time gone to his rest.

Aunt Mackay, the wife of Mr. Mackay of Rockfield, was a most excellent and energetic woman, constantly occupied with good works, and enlisting as coadjutors everybody within the range of her influence or acquaintance. Having lived with her husband for some years at Shiness, she was deeply interested in the Highlanders, and after the sale of the place to the Sutherland family, and the unhappy "clearances," in consequence of which many of the small tenants of Sutherland had to emigrate, she followed their history, at first a very sad one, by the most unceasing efforts to better their condition temporal and spiritual, but especially the latter, and never rested till she had been the means of sending out to Cape Breton, whither large detachments of them had gone, several ministers of the Gospel to care for their souls and see to the godly upbringing of their children. Among the numerous means by which she raised funds for these objects was the making of slender wax tapers and miniature candlesticks, in which we were all engaged. Great collections were made of disused reels (pirns) and pill boxes. These were painted with sealing-wax of various colours melted in spirits of wine. Thousands of these were made, and, along with the tapers of untwisted white cord dipped in wax, were sold in every direction. I never knew a more persevering

worker, and she had her reward. The people at Cape Breton valued exceedingly the means of grace she supplied to them, and there have been frequent revivals of religion among them.

It was to Aunt Mackay that was due the beginning of the Ladies' Association for Highland Schools, carried on with such distinguished success by Miss Barbara Abercrombie and Miss Rainy.

Uncle Mackay's grandfather and father had been ministers of Lairg successively. Mr. John and Mr. Thomas, as they were called, were still spoken of with great veneration in my younger days.

Nor can I omit to mention our grand-aunt, Miss Catharine Macleod of Geanies, Aunt Kitty, who was extremely kind to us all and made us welcome at her beautiful place, Crawfurd Bank, Lasswade. Her singular refinement and taste, as well as warm Christian sympathies, made her society delightful to us all.

What we owe to our dear aunt, Jane Farquharson, can never be told. She was a beautiful character and a delightful companion. Indeed, both our Aunts Betsy and Jane were what my old friend Mr. Dill used to call "exalted women," universally beloved and respected.

To return to my education: in the middle of my course at Mr. Cunningham's an incident occurred which led to my school life being abruptly terminated. A cousin of mine, John Matheson, the youngest brother of Sir Alexander, was in Glasgow in the counting-house of a mercantile firm, James

Ewing & Co., and died very suddenly. In coming up one morning from the coast, he had received a tract entitled, "Life by the Blood." Being a pious youth, he was conversing for a few minutes about this tract with some in the office who were in sympathy with him, and had just observed, "The life is in the blood," when he fell off the stool and expired. Mr. Ewing and his partner, Mr. William Mathieson (father of Mr. James E. Mathieson), were very desirous to secure another member of the family to succeed him in the counting-house, and Mr. Mathieson came to see my father to learn whether he had a son who could take the vacant place. Although with some reluctance, as I was only fifteen, my father consented that I should go, and so on the 28th May, 1836, I was sent to Glasgow, and took my seat in the counting-house, then in Ingram Buildings and afterwards in George Square. The travelling was by coach in those days and took five hours.

Mr. Ewing was Member of Parliament for Glasgow, had been Lord Provost, and at the head of nearly all the beneficent institutions in the city, and was probably the foremost citizen of his day, often originating and always actively promoting those great improvements both material and social which made Glasgow the worthy commercial centre which it became. He was a man of some literary taste. His house, one of the most distinguished in Glasgow, stood at the north-west corner of George Square, in a beautiful park, well wooded, and with a

large rookery, all which I well remember. The house and the whole hill were afterwards pulled down to turn the site into the terminus of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway, which it continues to be. Mr. Ewing had ceased to attend to the details of business, which were entirely in Mr. Mathieson's hands. I may here say that he was always very kind to me. He frequently corresponded with me after I left Glasgow on matters of importance connected with his firm. Mr. Mathieson was kindness itself. My salary at the office was £10 for the first year, £15 for the second and £20 for the third, but he used very generously to give me presents, which lessened the amount for which I had to draw on my father. For about six months I boarded with a private family, but before I was sixteen I was living in lodgings alone. In the winter of 1837–38 I had a severe attack of typhus fever, and although they called in a Dr. Wilson to attend me, I was regularly visited also, twice every day, by my dear and valued friend Dr. Harry Rainy, who came in consultation, and whose advice gave great confidence at home from his eminence as a physician. After the illness was over he could not be induced to accept any fees. My poor father came twice from Edinburgh to see me, the illness was so severe and his anxiety so great. Not long after my recovery he was seized with the same fell disease, and I was summoned to Leith by my sisters. He was delirious when I arrived and could not recognize me. To our great sorrow, he

died on the 24th of May, 1838, and was buried beside our mother in South Leith Churchyard.

My brother Donald having gone to China a year previously, many things connected with the care of the family devolved upon me, at the age of seventeen, but we were all graciously cared for.

I may here say that my health was never quite re-established after the typhus fever, and in the autumn of 1839 I was advised by friends to go to Leamington, to be under the celebrated Dr. Jephson, who had been of use to many friends from Scotland. I cannot say there was much lasting improvement, but I enjoyed my stay at Leamington very much. I had a good deal of intercourse with the Rev. Alfred Pope, minister of the Congregational Church, an excellent man and delightful company. There was something in the frankness of English Christians that was very attractive, and I was wonderfully helped by my intercourse with Mr. Pope. It was at his church that I partook of the Lord's Supper for the first time, just fifty-two years ago (1891).

The succeeding winter was spent by me in Edinburgh at my grandmother's, and I was still there when dear Elizabeth was taken away in March, 1840. The summer of that year I spent at Achany (Sutherland) with our three Matheson aunts, Betsy, Williamina and Johanna, and Uncle Tom, and greatly profited by the country life. That estate had just been bought for Uncle James, and we all went up from Kildary (Ross-shire) to take possession. On

that occasion I rode on horseback from Edinburgh by the Highland road. In October I was able to return to business in Glasgow. I then joined the congregation of Dr. James Henderson of St. Enoch's, and enjoyed his fine evangelical preaching. At his suggestion I became a member of the St. Enoch's Sabbath School Society, teaching a local school on Dr. Chalmers' plan in the celebrated wynds. In connection with the Sabbath School I took a good deal of work that interested me much, visiting the houses of the district assigned to me, taking the statistics of each family, and distributing *The Monthly Visitor* There was a large general attendance of the children on Wednesday evenings, to be taught music by the ear, that they might join in singing at their classes. At this I pretty regularly assisted. Some of us combined and sent our precentor, Mr. Lithgow, to London, to study Hullah's system of teaching to read music at sight, and got up a large select class of ladies and gentlemen at the Andersonian University once a week. It was managed by Mr. Colin Brown, myself and Mr. W. D. Anderson. I mention this to show the interest I took in church music from an early time.

I should not omit to say that in order to supplement my imperfect education I resorted to every means within my power, and attended Glasgow University for three sessions as a private student—that is, I did not wear the red gown or attend the class examinations. My first class was the Logic, Professor

chanan, or "Logic Bob" as he was irreverently led. Next session I took Moral Philosophy under ming, and a year or two later I took again the gic class, my first session having been seriously errupted by the typhus fever. I took also an ning class for Mathematics by Mr. Wallace, and a time one for French by Mr. Brard.

Among the friends to whom I was attached in sgow, besides the Rainys, who were very kind, the f were the Robert Browns, Mrs. Brown, a remark- and delightful person, being a sister of Dr. ny. During the later years of my stay the eldest James and I became fast friends. He was a fine istian lad, admirably brought up. He was in father's office (Smith & Brown), a very quiet e. Our prayer-meeting of *two* met in that office

better, and at his own wish they brought him home to die. In the spring of 1847, soon after my return from India, they reached Southampton, and I went down to see him for a farewell. He was much emaciated, and could only speak a few words, but was in perfect peace. A few days later he passed away.

In the beginning of 1843, as I had been seven years in the Glasgow office, and might be supposed to have gained some knowledge and business experience, overtures were made to me by Uncle James to go out to China, to Jardine, Matheson & Co. This meant probably a great position and a large fortune. But as I knew that one of the principal items of their business was the opium trade, after much consideration and prayer I declined to go.

[At that juncture, through a friend of the firm, he was invited to enter the London house of Magniac, Jardine & Co. In reference to this invitation he writes:]

This I gratefully accepted, and among many regrets left Glasgow for London on the 11th March, 1843.

Before leaving I took part in a congregational meeting of St. Enoch's Church, proposed or seconded a resolution, and signed my adherence to the protest for non-intrusion and spiritual independence, in the prospect of the Disruption. The members of the St.

Enoch's Sabbath School Society invited me to a soirée and presented me with a very touching address, bearing all their signatures. Very deep feeling was shown at the meeting. The address was as follows:—

GLASGOW *March 6th* 1843

MR. H. M. MATHESON

Dear Sir,—

We the undersigned, your fellow-labourers in the work of Sabbath School teaching, desirous of giving expression to the high esteem we entertain for you as a Christian and the deep regret we feel at the great loss we are about to sustain by your immediate removal to the metropolis of the Empire, request the favour of a meeting with you in Graham's Coffee House, 32, Argyle Street, on Wednesday, the 8th current, at half-past eight o'clock evening.

We are, dear sir,

Yours most sincerely,

(*Signed*)

Donald Macallister	David Bryce
George Hodges	E. Robertson
Robert Lochon, junr.	James C. Stevenson
Colin Brown	Mas. N. Knox
Richard R. Grant	V. C. Brown
Wm. Kidston, junr.	Duncan Turner
James Brown	Chas. S. Livingston
William Kidston	James Stevenson
John Bell	J. L. Lang
John Connell	A. Anderson, M.D., D.M.

I was reluctant to leave my Glasgow life. There

are many things that might be recorded which would illustrate what my life there was at so important and critical a period. Although I never went into general society, there were many friends who had a regard for me. Few now remain, Mrs. Mackintosh and Colin Brown being among those who knew me best. One little thing I may mention. It was one of my duties as junior clerk in the office to go for the letters on Sunday and take them up to Mr. Mathieson's house. After this had ceased to be my own duty I spoke to Mr. Mathieson about it, and said how much better it would be to give up sending for the letters on Sunday. It was not very easy to speak, but he at once assented, and said it would be discontinued, and it was.

The following account of a visit to Cambuslang was found in a note-book:—

August 14th 1842 *Sunday.*—Went to Cambuslang, a distance of five miles, to commemorate the centenary of Whitefield's preaching there, when the work of God was so wonderfully manifested in the conversion of many souls. Dr. Brown, of St. John's, preached most impressively in the same place, a beautiful glen adjoining the church, and from the same text that Mr. Whitefield preached on, "To you who believe He is precious" (1 Peter ii. 7). The audience was of the most respectable character, and I should think there were five or six thousand people sitting in the well-formed amphitheatre of Nature's own workmanship. The worthy man's voice was well heard by the whole

congregation, and who can tell but that in some souls there was sown the good seed destined to spring up and bear fruit many-fold? He treated the subject with a masterly hand, and commended it most solemnly to the conscience of all, towards the close earnestly recommending this question, "Am I a believer?" reminding them that they might never have another opportunity of having the Gospel message proclaimed in their hearing, and certainly that he would never address them again, but that they would meet one day to give in their account at the bar of the Judge. The scene altogether was very impressive, very much like the field preaching at the Highland Communions, in which I never could join from the services being in Gaelic.

This day a hundred years ago many thousands met on this hillside, but where are *they* now?

LETTERS, 1843–1845

It is a great privilege to have some letters lent by the brother of James Brown, his great friend, who is mentioned so affectionately in his account of his Glasgow life. These letters are the only record of his early experiences in London. The last was written from Hong Kong on hearing of James Brown's very serious illness. They fitly illustrate his own ideas of what correspondence between friends may be, as expressed in a paragraph of an early note-book as follows:—

As for sitting down to write a religious letter, it is what I cannot do myself, and what I do not very much admire, unless there be some particular occasion that calls it forth.

I love rather that a letter be a free and easy communication of such things as are upon the mind, and such as we imagine will interest the person with whom we correspond. Some, indeed, who have a talent for letter-writing may employ their pen profitably in the more direct and formal way, but it is a thing I cannot do: religion with me is only the salt with which I season the different subjects on which I write, and it is recommended in that view by St. Paul, to be used in the whole of our converse with each other.

To James Brown

London *March 18th* 1843

. . . It will be necessary for me to strain every nerve at the outset [of his work in the office] to acquire a high standing and to merit confidence. You may believe I am a little nervous about it. . . .

Of the things at Miss Stewart's [his Glasgow lodgings], which I was quite aware of having left, you may make a kirk (I wish you could) and a mill. . . .

If you miss me, the feeling can bear no proportion to that with which I miss you all. But of this I shall say little at present, being very little disposed, and very weary.

To the same

3 Lombard Street *March 25th* 1843

Many thanks for yours of the 23rd received this morning. I am delighted to hear that the departure of a lazy vagabond like me has been of such consequence to the district which for a short time was cumbered with my nominal superintendence. . . .

My ears never were so enchanted as they were last night with "Israel in Egypt," from upwards of 500 performers, in Exeter Hall. To attempt an account of the performance or of my delight is beyond me in the meantime. On sobering down I may perhaps tell you more about it. Suffice it to say that I recognized the "Frogs," a very *pretty* passage, and enjoyed above all what your father and you sing together, "The Lord is a man of war," etc. It was far too ecstatic for me.

I am getting a little to do by degrees in the office, and have to-day written to J. E. & Co., much to the satisfaction of Mr. Smith, who is one of the finest of men. I felt it very trying to refuse to dine with him on Sunday, but he was very kind and perceived at once my scruples, adding before I could say yes or no that he would make it some other day.

Half the clerks are Scotchmen, the head clerk and one or two others Inverness men!

We supped with Mr. Hamilton (minister of Regent Square Presbyterian Church) the other night, when I met some of his young staff, very nice. I have some idea in my head, however, of giving them some good assistance, though at present it is impossible.

To the same

May 1st 1843

. . . You asked me to write to you about the class, and the reason why I have not done so was or is that I feel a reluctance to recommend one course more than another. So far as I am concerned in the dissolution of my connection with the St. Enoch's Society, I have lost what has been a source of the greatest satisfaction to me

for the last few years. Though I felt at times oppressed with the consciousness of being unable to do the duty as it ought to be done, I miss the mental employment and the kind friendships and the whole thing very much. There is a blank which I don't think will be filled up until I muster courage to set about the school that I have in contemplation to gather in Somers Town, but about which I am very nervous, as I cannot see my way at all clear for carrying it on *properly*, and have no time to set it agoing. Your decision must rest entirely with yourself, and the *only* objection that I see to your undertaking the class is that you would be too much of a solitary, supposing that the other members of your family are to reside at Fairlie. This objection is a very important one, and you will grant that I ought to know something of a solitary life. It is what I know of it that makes me very sceptical about the propriety of your adopting anything that would entail it. Its evil effect on my own mind, and that of some others whom I know, is not to be calculated, and though with you now it would be under very different circumstances, still it is bad for a youth to live alone. The having no one to attend to or exchange sentiments with insensibly breeds selfishness, which is an abominable feeling difficult of being shaken off. If therefore the class is to separate you from your own home I would not have you take it.

Mr. Rainy has kindly asked me to go and see him, which I shall be glad to do as soon as practicable. He and his household are regular attenders at Regent Square.

To the same

LONDON *June 2nd* 1843

Do you know, James, I rejoice that you have cast in

your lot with that band (St. Enoch's Society, Glasgow)? I have an extraordinary love for them, there is so much solid worth and so much union and so much zeal, and yet a great reason why I am so glad is that I feel sure you will be of great use to them. Alas for me! I am a useless being, unable here for anything more than business, and even that I have not mastered yet.

There is a drunken piper disgracing his country's music outside. I am much inclined to knock him down.

After a severe illness of three months' duration :—

To the same

9 UPPER TERRACE HAMPSTEAD LONDON

September 14th 1843

. . . I had hoped that my cranium would have been more respectably roofed by nature's thatch ere this time than it is,—alas! it is already far better roofed in than many a poor kirk for the godly of our land is likely to be before winter's cold blasts begin to blow. I cannot think of Sutherland without deep distress—a whole county, to which I am warmly attached, threatened with ruin by the caprice of a single individual. Oh that the example of the Church, Acts xii. 5, were *truly* followed: "Prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for Peter."

To the same

HAMPSTEAD *October 10th* 1843

. . . I have learned good lessons, however. The fruits are not wanting altogether; but I am able to see more clearly the purposes of the trial, and rather encouraged than otherwise by this backgoing, because I don't yet feel able to encounter *the world.*

To the same

RICHMOND SURREY *November 15th* 1843

You ought to know that I am a good deal better just now than when I last wrote, having fallen in with a doctor more to my mind than any I have yet seen—Dr. Scott, of Barnes, in this neighbourhood. He prescribes natural tonics—viz., to be out all day. "Go to the Park. Scour it through all its phases."

Thank God, I have a better hope of a thorough restoration not many months hence.

On the occasion of Mr. James Brown being nominated as an office-bearer of Free St. Enoch's, Glasgow :—

To the same

RICHMOND SURREY *November 27th* 1843

I can truly say that "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you," and I do earnestly pray that He may enrich you more and more with all the good things of His House, and that you may be a dweller therein day and night for ever.

To the same

RICHMOND *January 31st* 1844

I daresay you will believe that I have desired frequently to write to you since receiving your last. On close examination, however, there has no doubt been a want of sufficient will, or there would have been a way. The fact is, every day's experience lays bare the truth that I am not yet myself, or what I *was*; and how far that was from what I ought to have been, considering my great advantages,

l knoweth. I am very foolish and ignorant, and cannot
the humblest manner lend a helping hand to guide a
rner. The mourner is the privileged man, his season
ne of great instruction, because he may often catch his
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To the same

March 26th 1844

. . Macallister's letter has come. He promises me a great treat in the psalmody of Melville Church, and says, "We have a Free Presbyterian precentor," underlining it to give it emphasis. I shall certainly not go to Glasgow at all if I can't be a Sabbath with you.

To the same

April 5th 1844

I cannot venture on more than half a sheet, but, long or short, one reading is more than my nonsense deserves, or than you are the least likely to be edified by. Another thing I would say in the preamble is that though I do not often allude in my replies to the matter of your letters, I seldom forget what you tell me that is of interest, and was quite aware that you and R. were or are the musicians of the congregation and parish, and that you are the precentor alluded to by Macallister. I have heard a great deal of the valuable services you have rendered to our friends, and the estimation in which you are held, to my great delight.

It is not unlikely that I may be with you on the 18th, but cannot promise to go to the festival, except perhaps to drop in at Interval B and stay for a tune or two.

And now, my good fellow, perhaps if I had sooner known I should have been now with you, though it might not have been prudent. But this is a sad wilderness, and though to some extent good for the body, is far from favourable to the prosperity of the soul, and I am thirsty, weary of being a worldling. You have indeed applied to a barren fig tree, but yet I should not say so, as it is for promises you ask, and the Bible teems with them. Isaiah xxvi. 19 is appli-

cable to the dead and dry, for it says, "Thy dead men shall live," etc., and what more can you want but faith to lay hold of it? which is to be obtained by following the call of the next verse, "Come, My people, enter into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee." I shall try to be with you in spirit.

After another severe illness:—

To the same

PARK COTTAGE 219 EDGEWARE ROAD LONDON
July 22nd 1844

You will be glad to hear that I am now very much better, and though I must not presume too much, I can hardly help dropping you a line or two.

Do you know I never felt so much the kindness of friends as during my illness? Worldly friends as well as Christian have seemed to vie with each other in showing me kindness; but oh, how invaluable the Christian friendship that carries all to a throne of grace, and I have often, when unable to pray myself, felt the greatest comfort in knowing, for I knew quite well, that many were doing it for me.

The next letter to James Brown gives an account of a trip to the Pyrenees, which he took with his brother Thomas, for the sake of the latter's health.

EAUX BONNES PYRENEES *November 29th* 1844

MY DEAR JAMES,—

I wrote a few hurried lines from Paris, and have not since then found it easy to continue the correspondence.

Now, however, alone in the heart of the Pyrenees by a most comfortable fireside in this deserted village, I propose amusing myself for a little by scribbling to my old friend.

Tom and I arrived at Pau two days ago in the greatest comfort. The weather was pretty good, and we enjoyed everything very much. The country in this neighbourhood is full of interest, beauty, and grandeur, and the view of these mountains during our last day's journey was very enchanting, worth coming so far to see. But the scenery of the route from Paris by which we came is *generally* uninteresting. At Poitiers, where we spent a day, there are numerous remains of great antiquity. There is one church more unequivocally dedicated to superstition than any I had previously met with. It is the church of St. Radegonde, and contains in a small railed recess a small stone called the Pas de Dieu, from the foot of our Saviour having rested upon it when He appeared to the saint, who is represented gaily dressed and decorated, kneeling before this stone and holding over it a green wreath. Into this little chapel a large number of coins have been thrown by the pilgrims who continue to visit the tomb of St. Radegonde in a vault below the church, although the remains were removed and burnt by the Huguenots. Lights are constantly burnt in both places. A board is also stuck up bearing that those who kneel in the "Chemin de la Croise" will have plenary indulgence granted to all their faithful [venial?] trespasses. This seems, however, to be very little appreciated; indeed, there is little religion of any kind among the people, and what there is, is nearly confined to the women.

Bordeaux is a fine town, but we did not remain long there. It has one of the finest quays in Europe, extending

ıe form of a crescent for three miles. There is also a nificent stone bridge, the engineering of which is beau-; but oddly enough carriages are forbidden to go kly over it—the horses must walk.

ecember 2 PAU.—Not having found an opportunity of ing away the foregoing scrawl till my return here on rday night, I retained it till to-day. . . . Having d a pony and guide at the Eaux Chaudes, I proceeded a splendid mountain pass, and continued to ascend by xcellent road till I passed the douane, situated at the emity of the village of Gabas. I reached a quarry ery fine marble, of a lovely white. Marble abounds so h in the neighbourhood that the doorposts, etc., of ost every cottage are made of it. It has struck me too characteristic of the country, that most of the houses ıese remote regions are insured against fire, as well as e in every town through which we have passed. The

had neither heart nor opportunity to write to you then, and now that I have received a mark of your affection in your note of 20th May, I am so oppressed by a heavy correspondence that it is hopeless to think of writing satisfactorily.

Well, in all these sore troubles there is a great deal of pain and anxiety and doubt, and, in short, a multitude of thoughts; and I daresay you cannot always find the comforts to delight your soul which some do in trials. It is well that you should not. It would not be affliction if you could, and truly affliction and suffering is a good thing for us. Afflictions are awfully miscalled that are attended by the consciousness of God's presence and love and manifest guidance; for what greater good in the world is there than experience such as that? I myself have not a doubt that He is guiding you, does love you tenderly, and will in His own good and wise time show you that, to your exceeding great comfort and tearful joy, if He has not already done so. My dear James, you know me well enough to understand the unconquerable aversion I have to let out my personal experience to others, excepting *tête-à-tête*, and yet I am beginning to think it is wrong. If it pleases God to spare you, and to carry me home, I hope we may have an opportunity of comparing notes. My experience has been very, very varied, and if you were beside me I should show you a few testimonies I have received, to my great wonderment, of much peace and refreshment having been secured as the result of a hint or two, and an observation of my ways, of which, however, I feel ashamed to speak even to you.

I see you are thankful for the comforts which surround you. Thankfulness is a most delightful frame. If you

nto the world carry it with you in your whole demeanour. s a rare commodity, and yet much admired and pro- ionally useful.

his is an extraordinary country. I have been much in- sted by a visit to the north, which I anticipate will afford great pleasure if I live to reach England, and escape, h I fear few do entirely, the influence of heathenism. James, they are much to be felt for whose lot is cast in na! What a different position I occupy with the ers of my brethren, and the affections of so many, the poor, forgotten lad who comes to seek his bread. onial missions are sadly neglected at home, and there arcely a refuge for a defenceless lad in this part of the d any way disposed to seriousness.

Ir. Colin Brown, to whom the next letter is ad- ssed, belonged to a different family from Mr.

musical instrument invented by himself, called "The Voice Harmonium." The key-board was somewhat complicated, although easily understood by any one familiar with the sol-fa system and the modulator. The intonation was perfect, and the result was arrived at from a mathematical point of view. Mr. Matheson secured the third instrument which was made.

To COLIN BROWN

2 YORK PLACE RICHMOND SURREY

Nov. 23rd 1843

. . . But you distress me about the poor B's. I thought much of H., and J. promised well, and it is singular that the only one now doing well is he of whom we entertained great fears: I, at least, did, and M. B. alarmed me about his associates. Need I say that I earnestly hope you will look well and kindly after him, that he may not be led away to his ruin? How true that all our hearts are by nature depraved—"There goes John Bradford, but for the grace of God." And how grateful should you and I be that, though deprived in early life of an earthly father's care, and I also of a mother's tenderness, we have been restrained by that grace from open depravity, and how overflowing with gratitude if we have been made partakers of the saving grace, the gift of a Heavenly Father's love in Jesus Christ.

Many thanks for introducing young S. It is quite what we want. The union, however, is in that and in most respects in its infancy, though of some years' standing, and there is not yet a sufficiently organised body of working

ds, which, with us in London, treated as we are by r great people with such *injudicious* contempt, is difficult formation. However, kindness and attention, gently ling such youths into the good old paths, these are means we propose to use. Our worthy Nisbet was in that way when he came to London. He was met he lobby of the chapel by an elder, who, seeing a bash- young countryman a little at a loss, kindly showed him at, and asked him home to dinner between sermons. I e heard him say that the effect of that kindness on him wonderful.

am progressing firmly — walking about a great deal, I think I am in a satisfactory way. This is too long, ever—indeed, but for the stormy state of the weather hould not have got on so far.

CHAPTER II

Eastern Tour : India and China

"The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein."—*Ps.* cxi. 2.

CHAPTER II

Eastern Tour: India and China

IN October, 1845, considering it would be a great advantage to him in business, he set out on a tour to India and China. It occupied eighteen months, and proved of the greatest possible interest. Diaries of part of this journey have been preserved, and from these the following extracts are taken, which, together with a few letters written to friends, present a vivid picture of his experiences.

October 20th 1845.—Bade farewell to Tom at the Nine Elms railway station at nine in the morning, and proceeded to Southampton, whence I sailed in steamship *Oriental*, at a quarter-past three, for Alexandria, on a tour to India and China, intended to combine information, health, and pleasure. My fellow-travellers were Mrs. Innes and Alexander Stuart, and a goodly escort of the friends of both came down to witness our departure.

"My native land, good-night." It is not easy to say this without dropping a tear. God only knows whether I shall ever see it again. Oh! for the city which hath foundations, the New Jerusalem!

To me there was a pang at leaving so many beloved friends and associations, which made me heavy of heart;

but the feelings of dear Mrs. Innes must have had far more trial, as she was leaving her children behind her. I felt, however, greatly sustained and comforted from knowing that I should be always remembered when absent by the dear and faithful brethren at Regent Square, and quite happy at having been privileged to hear the prayers which, on the previous day, they had offered up as a memorial before God on my behalf, as well when assembled together in the inner chamber as in the public devotions of the sanctuary. Blessed be God for this privilege. I felt also truly happy that my very dear friend, Jane Innes, was to be my companion for, at least, a portion of the way, and I now bless the Lord for the sweet intercourse we have enjoyed together, and if she has felt any comfort from my protection, *much do I feel* from being under hers. May God be with her in all her absence from the children, and carry her back again in peace to make many happy.

The following, written to James Brown from Cairo, tells of his tour so far :—

CAIRO *November 14th* 1845

I daresay you have been wondering at my long silence, and while I have a little time and brains at command, I shall try to run off a page or two of such matter as is uppermost in my mind, craving your indulgence if you do not find it such as you may have looked for. The fatigues of the transit to this grand city from Alexandria, coming after the confinement of the *Oriental*, and the special and painful duties which I have been called on to perform towards some poor afflicted people, have left me in a rather enfeebled condition, and as it is of primary

importance to be careful of health, without which I may better return at once, I am even doubtful whether, within five hours' ride of the Pyramids, I shall make out a visit to these wonderful monuments.

After passing the Bay of Biscay, where all conceivable horrors were enacted, we had a delightful passage all the way to Alexandria. Occasionally a stiff breeze of an evening would seriously disturb a few of the incurables like myself, but otherwise our own foolish wills, if omnipotent, could not have framed weather so altogether desirable as we enjoyed all the way up the Mediterranean. I can never think of this voyage, or of its many mercies, without very special gratitude for the society of my sweet cousin, Mrs. Innes. A Christian friend, who can enter into all your feelings and into whose heart you can enter, getting and giving mutually experience, counsel, motives for thanksgiving, subjects for prayer—such a friend is at all times valuable, but oh! how much so in scenes like those through which we passed. What an encouragement to *be decided* for ever on the Lord's side, and especially to me in the outset of a tour in which I shall have to do chiefly with those who care for none of these things.

It has been often said that on board ship no man can conceal his true character; and it is perfectly true—the world appears in its own colours, and the Christian is confirmed in his taste for better things. Understand, therefore, dear friend, that, notwithstanding all the disagreeables of the voyage, I have seldom had more real enjoyment. I had a kind of charge of several friends, and became in point of fact the managing director of eight or nine people, no sinecure when we were on shore at Malta and Alexandria, and I had the honourable dis-

tinction of making a speech at the last dinner we had on board, in support of one or two toasts which the company seemed to call for.

At Malta we spent four-and-twenty hours pleasantly enough in seeing the principal objects of interest, but, to tell you the truth, I care little for these things, and enjoy more the general appearance of a place, and of course anything peculiar that gives distinctness to one's associations connected with it. The harbour of Valetta is very fine, and one is very much struck with the splendour of the fortifications, the beautiful creeks for anchorage, and the picturesque effect of the town rising high above one, as the good ship steams along perseveringly to her destination. I enjoyed Mr. McKail exceedingly, and obtained from him a much clearer idea of the state of matters there than I had before possessed. He says it is very difficult for him to write satisfactorily, the labours of the mission are so arduous. McKail is a true man—a simple-hearted, devoted creature—and, in bidding me farewell on the beach, begged that they might be remembered in every way. It was Saturday, and they were to have their Communion on the following day (Nov. 2nd), the same as at Regent Square, and, if I am not much mistaken, with you also.

November 18th.—I have been unable to add to the foregoing till now, and it has come to sealing and despatching, the Bombay mail having arrived. Dreading to face the world, after having been a fortnight in Egypt without having seen the Pyramids, I mustered courage to start this morning at four o'clock, and determined, at all events, to make a fair attempt at reaching them. My servant managed so well that the worst of the mountains were brought low, and I am just going to turn in with the

satisfactory reflection that I have been at the top and in the interior of the great Pyramid of Cheops. The ascent is by no means a joke, but the most fatiguing part of the business to me was the getting down again, and when that was followed by the suffocation of the interior, the climax of my sufferings was gained. I breakfasted in a tomb, rudely furnished for such purposes, and had afterwards a most refreshing siesta, "Friday" having (I think prudently and certainly to purpose) placed a double-barrelled pistol by my side to frighten the Arabs, who are a most troublesome set with their *constant* cries for presents.

This digression has, however, led me away from what I meant to have told you of our painful adventures on the Nile. There was a young lady of our party going out to be married to a Bengal officer, whose brother had charge of her on board, and we were met, while sailing up the river, by the homeward-bound passengers, one of whom announced to our friend his brother's death. On recovering from a fainting fit, into which the shock threw him, the poor fellow sent for me in despair, told me the tidings he had received, and besought me to see to the poor girl, and to make every arrangement, as he was quite unable to do anything. We were careful to conceal the matter until our arrival at this hotel and until all had to a certain extent composed themselves after the dreadful fatigues of the transit. I was myself *completely exhausted*; nevertheless the emergency was imminent, and I never in my life felt so much the *need* and the *supply* of wisdom from the fountain head as on that sad, sad night. By the goodness of God everything was done that could and ought to have been done, both for those who went on and for her who was left behind, and I remained myself to comfort

and befriend the poor afflicted soul, who has borne it well, and whom I am sending off to-morrow morning back to her father's house.

While in India, on his way out, he went to Poona to see Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, who received him with great hospitality, sprinkled him with rose water, and decorated him with strings of flowers. From Bombay he went down the coast in a small schooner with ten lascars and a European officer. On this vessel he had to take his turn of the watch and observe the compass, as the lascars were very careless. "Putlee paat ke barabbur" often rang in his ears long afterwards—called up through the skylight at the man. He landed at Mangalore and visited some German missionaries there; also went to a Parsee shop, where a beggar asked for a little snuff for a sick child! He went on in the schooner to Cochin, and thence in a trading vessel to Colombo, the cargo being fish and fowls, and therefore far from pleasant for the passengers!

He reached Ceylon on January 6th, and remained in that beautiful island three months, the guest, for at least most of that time, of Sir Anthony and Lady Oliphant, who were extremely kind to him. He visited the hills, Kandy, etc., and in after life used often to refer to the loveliness of the scenery and the interest of all he saw there.

A letter written to his friend, James Brown, after leaving Ceylon on his way to China, tells of some of his experiences at that time. Some extracts are here given.

STEAMER *Lady Mary Wood*

BAY OF BENGAL *April 3rd* 1846

. . . Tom has, I daresay, kept you informed of my movements, and I need only in general terms make known to you that which fills my heart to overflowing, the great kindnesses and mercies that have continually followed me in all my way, and the providential guidances and deliverances and helps which I have experienced, the detail of which would fill volumes. The kindness that I have met with in Ceylon has surpassed anything I could have anticipated from Eastern hospitality, and the friendships I have made there have secured for the visit recollections of the most pleasing kind. There are some nice people there, some men of high principle anxious to do good, and actively engaged in the most disinterested way. But they want a sterling man of courage among them. You who have never seen a colony can hardly understand the state of society, which is peculiar and strikes a new-comer very much before he is lugged into its ways. They want some commanding man of out-and-out, no-surrender religious principle, to give a tone to the religious society, which is full of small notions.

A Mr. James Smith, of the Established Kirk (of Scotland), has just been appointed colonial chaplain at Kandy. I have *much* to say about the Kirk there and the great kindness our countrymen have experienced from Episcopalians, a few of whom have indeed had the whole toil of getting up the thing. Dear fellows they are: Maberly, Butler and Bird are names that the Scotchmen in Ceylon should never forget.

The finest fellows with Rev. before their names in Ceylon are one or two of the Church missionaries.

. . . Nuera Ellia is a famous sanatorium, elevated 6,000 feet above the sea, where I found frost and all that is charming, enjoyed a couple of blankets and toasted myself of an evening over a blazing wooden fire on the hearth. The American missionaries stationed at Jaffna in the north of the island are capital fellows too. They have schools something on our Calcutta plan, and I am told that the treat of being privileged to join their little society for a few days, and see their domestic peace and social love, is something worth going a long way for. Had not the cholera been raging in the place all the time of my stay in Ceylon, I had made up my mind to accompany my friend the Chief Justice on his circuit that way and visit that mission station.

The scanty home news that I receive through the overland newspapers, of which I read nearly every line, including part of the advertisements, is a treat beyond description. What will it be when I receive in China a budget of letters and papers already there and now on board with me?

The diary is resumed only in Hong Kong. After a few weeks spent there, in company with his brother Donald, he went a trip up the coast to Shanghai, etc. Extracts from his diary follow.

HONG KONG *June* 6 1846.—Weighed anchor at 3.40 p.m., and sailed by the southward of the island for Shanghai in the *Gem*, Captain Watson. Had gone on board previous evening at 11 o'clock, but at daylight, as we were about to sail, the crew, twenty-five Malays, intimated their intention of remaining at Hong Kong, they having

been seven months on board, while they are only bound to remain for six. Captain Watson had nothing for it but go on shore and obtain a new crew, which he did entirely of Europeans. Fellow-passengers, the Rev. Dr. Medhurst and Mr. Smith (?). Started with a nice moderate breeze. . . . At daylight passed some small rocks, and stood out to sea with a light northerly wind.

June 10.—Had some conversation with Dr. Medhurst on the state of things at Shanghai. He preaches every Sunday to 150 Chinese in his own house. There is no difficulty in their coming—indeed, it is considered quite estimable to do so—and when a chapel is ready, which is being built in the heart of the Chinese town, he expects a large attendance.

The English have now service in the Consulate, conducted by the missionaries alternately. Medhurst used to do it, but when his colleagues came he made it over entirely to them, as he could preach in Chinese, which they couldn't. I must not forget the conversation with Major Aldrich, the principal engineer at Hong Kong, on the subject of the buildings there. Great credit is due to that officer for the improvements introduced by him in the erection of the Government buildings, which he made patent to *all* the Chinese, and the consequent improvement generally in the colony. He remarked with great warmth on the excellence of the Chinese workmen, and their primitive but most effective method of raising large stones without a single pulley, but by means of the inclined plane and bodily labour. It was he that taught them generally to make the beautiful thin granite columns which adorn so many of the houses (having, however, ascertained they could do it by discovering a set in Mr.

Mercer's house). He has visited some of the finest structures, ancient and modern, in the world, and declares that he has seen nothing he would not now undertake to build with Chinamen, giving them simply the *bamboo* and iron. While at it, I may add that the shed over J., M. & Co.'s new dwelling-house is a most striking object, entirely composed of the bamboo without a single nail, and is the most beautiful scaffolding I have ever seen.

June 11.—A nice breeze all night, with rain. About noon it became squally, when stern sails were taken in, and we going before the wind up the Formosa channel at nine knots at least.

The high mandarin who treated so barbarously the unfortunate men wrecked in the *Nerbudda* transport, and in the *Ann*, on the coast of Formosa in 1841, was, to please Sir H. Pottinger, removed from his situation in the island, but has since been appointed to a more lucrative one.

In Kandy there is a tooth of Buddha, which is considered very sacred by his worshippers, and was till quite lately kept under the protection of the British Government, the key being kept by the principal official at the station. They have now, however, declined any further care of the relic, and when I was there in February, I believe there was such a dispute among the Buddhists as to who should now have the custody of it that it was not unlikely to lead to a disruption of the sect in the island. It appears that in China three or four centuries ago there was a bone of the god (?) brought from afar which created a great sensation. The emperor came out in procession to meet and honour the relic. But one of his censors (an office which still exists, although more nominally than

really) took advantage of his privilege to address a most grave remonstrance to his majesty on the occasion, opposing with all the reasoning he could muster the honouring of such a senseless thing as a bone, declaring that if it was a man's bone the man must necessarily be dead and unable to do them any good, and defying him, if a god, to come and punish him for his opposition. The document is still preserved by the Chinese, and is said to be clever and well written. The censor was removed from his office, and subsequently sent to Cha'o-chow-foo, in the Canton province, as prefect. Canton was then hardly considered part of China; but this man civilized the people, and, among other good deeds, drove away the alligators from their coast. It is related that he actually wrote an address to the alligators commanding their departure, and that not one has since been seen, thus proving how superstitious one may be in one sense while the very opposite in another.

At Kandy the constant noise of the instruments with which they keep the god awake is most annoying at first. Túm túm, tetum tum; túm túm, tetum tum; all day long nearly, and even at night. There is land attached to the temple, and the revenue thereof is applied in support of these noisy chaps of priests.

June 13.—During the night saw the Island of Formosa, bearing east. The Roman Catholics' missions in the neighbourhood of Shanghai number probably 60,000 people —the bishop, a Count de Bèse (?), a gentlemanly man. Their writings, which they print in Chinese, are often good. Medhurst was reading one of them, on Christianity, which he liked much, and would make use of. It contained their constant error, the omission of the Second

Commandment, but no other Romish error whatever, and stated well the objections usually urged by the Chinese to Christianity, silencing each in turn with great clearness. About two months ago the bishop took a truly Popish step. There was an aged Chinese priest died twenty years since, who, unfortunately, had embezzled church money before his death, and was condemned by the last bishop to twenty years of purgatory. The present bishop announced to his people the other day that this old man had been now nineteen years suffering for his offence, and that they should pray for his deliverance, which it would be a great act of charity to effect. They accordingly prayed and *paid*, which was very satisfactory, and after a time it was publicly announced that the bishop had had a revelation from heaven that the prayers of the faithful had succeeded and he was released.

Having mentioned Formosa, it may be interesting to state that a good many years ago a book was written and published in England, which obtained some circulation, on the history of this island, its manners and customs, and the kings and queens for ages; giving also a minute and interesting description of the principal towns and scenery, and a picture of the then king and queen; furthermore, a vocabulary of terms in the language (very full). The writer, it appears, was then at Oxford, and afterwards becoming serious, he entered the Church, and obtained a parish in England, where he was labouring with zeal. He had not been long there, however, before his conscience smote him so sorely about his book that he wrote again, declaring that the whole was a fabrication of his brain, without a word of truth, and that he had never read a word about Formosa in his life!

At noon to-day (13th) we were eleven miles north of Alligator Islands.

The Roman Catholic book which Dr. Medhurst was reading in Chinese was *A Gatherer of Sticks and Straws for the Benefit of Mankind*, and he kindly read to me a considerable portion, which was most admirable, full of clear argument for Scriptural doctrine in beautifully simple language. To write with effect in Chinese one must use the *Chinese* metaphors, which are very expressive, and with which their language abounds; hence the difficulty of translating the Scriptures, the metaphors of which it is felt should almost never be altered. The author of the book, which was originally published in 1715, must have become remarkably well acquainted with Chinese literature, if not himself a Chinaman, which Dr. Medhurst is inclined to think he was. The arguments for the union and yet distinct natures of God and man in Christ, the necessity for a Divine Redeemer in our nature, the impossibility of angels, saints, or men for themselves working out salvation, are all put in such a way as would come with great effect from the pulpit of our best Calvinistic preachers.

The behaviour of Tong, Emperor during seven years of famine (corresponding, within a few years, with the seven years' famine in Egypt), is made use of very beautifully to answer the objection that the Divine Being would have degraded Himself by coming to earth and suffering on the Cross. It is detailed how Tong humbled himself very much because of the famine, and took on himself six faults, which he believed had been the cause of the calamity; and it is related that on this the famine ceased. Did he disgrace himself by this humilia-

tion? Contrast: The affair of Tong is to the work of Jesus Christ as a grain of sand to the Western mountains or a drop of water to the Eastern seas—the one to the people of the empire for one season, the other to myriads of ages, etc., etc. Tong took on himself six faults, Christ the sins of the whole world, etc., etc.

From Shanghai thirty or forty very large junks of rice go annually to Pekin, the vessels making only one trip in the year. They go through the Grand Canal. The rice costs about $3 per picul, but this increases its cost in Pekin to about $7. The junks are merely laden with it in the bottom of their hold, the upper part being filled with goods for the benefit of the mandarins who have charge of the "pigeon." The price of fine flour at Shanghai is $2 a picul.

June 16.—Had a splendid breeze all night. At 2 a.m. made the islands in the Chusan group, keeping quite outside. At daylight passed Saddle Island, and the breeze continued steady from the southward. We soon came into the muddy water from the great river, although at least sixty miles distant from Woosung. Numbers of fishing-boats with long nets were busy out there plying their craft. When about abreast of Gutzlaff we began heaving the lead, which was continued without intermission from noon till we anchored. The coast soon appeared, low and green, covered with short, mixed wood, and rather pretty. About five we reached the mouth of the Woosung River, hardly distinguishable from the great flatness of the surrounding country. The opium ships anchor just within it, to be out of the strong current of the Yang-tze Kiang, and have a very snug berth of it. About half-past five we anchored among them, and were im-

mediately boarded by captains and representatives of ships, to the number of a dozen at least, asking for news and letters. I went on board the *Folkestone*, where Captain McM. was giving a party to the captains and their wives. Dr. Medhurst also went there, and he and I set out as soon as possible to Shanghai.

To Mr. Thos. Cleghorn, *his cousin*

Schooner *Audax*

East Coast of China *July 16th* 1846

My dear Tom,—

Although I have no hopes of fulfilling my part of our oft-made compact, I am anxious to ease my over-burdened conscience a little and despatch one sheet at least to your address before leaving the Celestial Land. Having heard nothing to the contrary, I trust you are all well and hearty, enjoying in peace the blessings with which you are surrounded. I have been knocking about a great deal since we parted at Inverness, and have certainly, on the whole, enjoyed my tour very much. A stronger man would have accomplished more in the time than I have been able to do, and most men would have given their friends at home a better history of their progress and the matters of great interest that crowd on the observation. But if it pleases God to guide me back safely to England, I anticipate not only pleasure from the retrospect of these adventures, but that I will carry to the business of life a more matured mind, and an extent of information and experience which will make me more useful as well to society as to my own mercantile connections. On the subject of health, which was one object I had in view,

I do not know that it will be much improved. Those sea voyages are very trying, as I really believe a worse sailor never paced a deck. It is well for me that I did not come out round the Cape. That overland route is a wonderful affair—I have never been longer than eleven days at sea, and here I am without having yet crossed the line, and without the prospect of doing so, which is rather curious; I was very near it at Singapore.

Of all countries in the East, China is, of course, the most wonderful. You meet with Chinamen first in the Straits of Malacca, where they have settled in very large numbers, and between whom and their countrymen on this coast, particularly at Amoy, a very large trade is carried on. But though very intelligent, and quite superior to other Easterns, these are not a fair specimen of the Chinese nation, being for the most part great rogues. They are much given to smoking opium, but are a powerful, hard-working race, and many of those who leave Amoy without a dollar in their purse, as do thousands every year, return with five and ten thousand dollars to settle in the old country.

At Canton one certainly meets with Chinamen of a different kind, but even there the view is not a favourable one.

Access to the city is denied to the foreigner, and he cannot, without insult, go any distance into the country to see the people in their natural state.

It is far otherwise at the northern ports, and as I was anxious to visit these I embarked on June 7th in a brig called the *Gem* bound for Woosung, a fine anchorage in the Yang-tze Kiang, near to Shanghai. My fellow-passenger was the Rev. Dr. Medhurst, well known as a

Chinese scholar and long resident in Batavia as a missionary of the London Missionary Society. He was removed to Shanghai on the opening of the ports three years ago, and now labours there with Dr. Lockhart, who superintends a Benevolent Healing Hospital. The voyage was a very good one, accomplished in ten days, the wind being generally favourable in the south-west monsoon, namely from May to November, and contrary during the other six months of the year, when northerly winds prevail.

Arriving at Woosung about five in the afternoon, I longed for a night of rest on shore, and prevailed on Mr. Medhurst to accompany me. We set out for Shanghai across the country as soon as we could procure a couple of chairs and bearers for the journey. This was my first introduction to China properly so called, to its fields and farmyards and villages, and interested me exceedingly. The country all round is perfectly flat, not a rising object visible, and vessels unacquainted with the coast and approaching it in the dark or in thick weather frequently run on shore. There are trees of low stature studded pretty thickly along the banks of the river, and in the country scattered about, with here and there a grove of bamboos with their lovely young green mixed with a few darker trees, forming one of the most beautiful objects to be seen in the East, and to which I have never seen justice done by either pen or pencil. The gracefulness of the bamboo, with its feathery foliage, cannot be exaggerated, and in Ceylon, when mingled with the tall and the stunted palm in every variety and the dark leaves of the bread fruit and jack trees, the effect is very fine.

With the exception of those occasional groves, all this district is completely cultivated, or tilled, for the woods

are as necessary to the subsistence of the people as the rice and corn, cotton and indigo, which are the principal crops they raise. Our way lay along the narrow footpaths which divide their fields, and are raised to the height of one or two feet, and serve to keep the water within the wished-for bounds during irrigation. There are no other fences than these raised paths, but round the farm steadings there are high railings of plaited bamboo, and generally a thick hedge of some evergreen to keep the houses warm in winter. The extremes of heat and cold are very great there—last winter the thermometer fell as low as 16°, and I have myself seen it in complete shade at 101°, while Adie's thermometer, which I always carry with me, stood in the coolest room in Dr. Lockhart's house and under the punka at 98° on the 28th June. At this moment it stands at 90° in the cabin, but we are now in the latitude of Hong Kong, and, I trust, within a very few days of arriving there.

But the question is, when am I ever to reach Shanghai? I left Woosung with you, but the truth is it was very near sunset and the greater part of the journey was performed in the dark. We arrived at ten o'clock, and, having knocked up Mr. Dallas, the junior partner of Jardine, Matheson & Co., who has the charge there, and delivered my despatches and news, I betook myself to what I had so much longed for—a comfortable bed—and made fast the curtains so that not a chink was left open. But oh, the horror! This very instant, sir, congratulate yourself that you live in Scotland, where there are no musquitoes, that scourge of the East. The bed had been unoccupied for months and was full of them, and that black rascal of a Portuguese boy had neglected to turn them out.

Sir, there I was exhausted by the voyage, fatigued by the land journey, thankful for the safe arrival, full of hope for the delicious repose,—judge of my disappointment. In vain did I rise and ply all the implements at command to dislodge the intruders—they had secreted themselves in too great numbers for such efforts to have more than a temporary effect, and the annoyance continued to be so serious that I could not close an eye during the whole night. The song of a musquito in the moment of his triumph has something terrible in it which a sufferer alone can understand. Of course from the lateness of my arrival the boy was not punished, but I took good care, you may believe, to have everything thoroughly aired before the next night.

On two other occasions I have suffered in the same way, at Alexandria, and at Ningpo, while the guest of Mr. Thom, when from the insufferable heat he and I slept on couches in the open court, and my curtains were so badly rigged that it was impossible to keep the enemy out. Ah, Tom, when the old fellows talk of the pleasures of the East, and you are tempted to migrate thither in their search, bethink you of the musquitoes and of the cockroaches which bite your nails to the quick, and content ye with your bread and butter in old Scotland—it is far sweeter than the frog curry and champagne you might get in China; and if you fancy that surely they drink better tea there, know that since the 20th October, 1845, I have not tasted a cup of tea equal to what I made for myself on that morning in my lodgings in London.

The city of Shanghai is a considerable one, containing upwards of 200,000 inhabitants. The streets are as narrow

as is usual in China, five or six feet wide, and lined with small houses and shops of one storey, or without any storey at all, which latter I think predominate. The people have a respectable look, and are most industrious. The men dress in cloth of the native cotton and grass cloth, blue, unbleached and white being the prevailing colours; the women always in dark blue and black, except when mourning, then in white, so far as I could observe. In the north nearly all women have contracted feet, which have an ugly appearance from the quantity of bandage that they constantly wear about them immediately above the shoe. The smallness of these in women who do not work in the field is not exaggerated, nor is their desire to have them as minute as possible. The principal broker at Shanghai, by name Allúm, whose failure lately has caused a great turmoil in British trade, was so extravagant as to procure a wife from Nankin whose feet were, as he described them, "*too* muchee small, no enough two inchy." Europeans there are welcome to go freely among the natives, who do not, at least now, manifest any extraordinary curiosity, but by the rules of the Consulate they are not permitted to go farther into the country than can be accomplished with the return in one day. I availed myself of the privilege to the full extent by accompanying Mr. Medhurst and Dr. Lockhart on a tour of about fifty miles, which they made to distribute among the numerous villagers religious books and tracts translated by the former, and printed at the Mission Press. Our mode of travelling was by boat, through the innumerable canals which intersect the country, and serve, in fact, as roads, being employed in conveying even the produce of the field to the farm steading. We landed at about eight towns on the

way, and generally walked from one end to the other of the long street of which each generally consists, distributing the books at every door, the whole population invariably turning out and eagerly pressing forward to get a share of the spoil. If you were to go into an infant school and hold up a hundred picture books as the children were about to disperse there could not be a greater rush than we often had from several hundred men at a time, eagerly requesting a tract, and when at the extremity of the town we regained the boat, which had proceeded on to wait there for us, every opening, every window, and the bridge were invariably crowded with gazers. It is impossible to estimate the good that may one day result from efforts like these.

The country is richly cultivated all round. The wheat crop had lately been taken home—indeed, I saw some of the wheat harvest gathered on a former excursion, precisely as we do it, and we now saw it stacked in the farmyards in similarly shaped stacks to those in use with us, though not so regularly formed as to size and position. The whole population seemed to be employed in bringing in indigo and manufacturing the fluid dye. The plant grows to about eight inches high, in shape like a lettuce, but soft and of a bluish green, and thickly covering the whole field. Arrived at the grower's premises, it is put into a vat with water and allowed to ferment. Some assistance is given, I believe, by the addition of lime, and after the fluid has passed through several vats it is ready for the market.

There is, I believe, a second crop of the indigo, the first plant being merely cut off even with the ground. The women are chiefly employed with hoes cleaning the

n, which is just beginning to flourish after the wheat, over does with us, having been sown either along t or at all events before it was reaped. The women out all the stubble and every weed from the little s, which in about three months' time grow to the t of one and a half to two feet from the ground, and ce the cotton from a pod. Rice has lately been ed out from small nurseries in the corner of each and others are busy working the water wheels which these constantly under water until the grain has filled. Mackenzie's son, whom I saw at Chusan, is sending to Sir George models of all their apparatus, which sure will interest him exceedingly. These wheels st of a number of wooden paddles worked up an ed plane in a box which they fit, so much water carried up between each two paddles and discharged the field. They are generally moved by a buffalo,

ward course, our boatman had to use the scull oar, a large and most powerful instrument peculiar to the Chinese, and at last became so fatigued that about midnight we resolved on landing and completing the journey on foot. The distance must have been five or six miles from Shanghai, my quarters being at least two miles farther, and, leaving my friends at their respective doors in the city, I traversed the whole length of it, reaching home at 3 a.m. No town in the world could be a more perfect model of order and quiet,—here and there a cook-shop was open, and the preparation of curds going forward, or other articles for the early breakfast, and one blacksmith was hard at work at his anvil, availing himself, I presume, of the *cool* of the night, though the temperature was what, in England, would be considered extremely hot.

I might expatiate on the beauties of Chusan, certainly the prettiest scenery in China; on my visit to Ningpo, and our sending the European sailors from this schooner to capture a salt smuggler to convey me there; and, finally, on my visit to Amoy, a place of greater trade than Ningpo, but far inferior in cleanliness and style. But the truth is, my dear fellow, still feeling the pressure of heavy arrears in correspondence, I have this moment been considering whether, as regards you, I am not entitled to, or at least may not crave, a temporary discharge. Pardon, I pray you, the hurried style, and accept my effusion, such as it is, as a token of my affection, which distance and a mixture with the rougher world do anything but lessen.

On reaching Hong Kong I hope to obtain an early opportunity for proceeding to Manila, after seeing which I wish to move on to Calcutta, although the easiest way will probably be to return here and go down to Singapore in the

eamer, as sailing vessels make very long passages in this onsoon. As I hope in that way to reach Calcutta about e beginning of November, I shall be glad if you will ite to me, addressing to the care of Messrs. Jardine, inner & Co. at that place.

EXTRACTS FROM DIARY

SHANGHAI *June* 18.—In the evening we took a boat and nt up to the city, taking Mr. Grant with us to interpret, have a look at the shops, tea gardens, and curiosities of e place. Some of the curiosities were new to me, and mpted a little, but I purchased nothing. What amused e most, however, were coloured caricatures of the English ring the war, generally a steamer in the river, and in the reground a number of officers with their ladies, and some ldiers, and almost always a lascar with a cock under his m. In one there was also a rabbit hung on the bayonet the soldier, and all done in such a grotesque style that is most amusing. The shops are very small. The tea rdens, so called, are constituted by a pond covering out two acres with numerous rocky islands and long oden bridges leading from one to the other; houses the ornamental style like cafés with many small tables,

are narrow, paved with rough stones, and very dirty, generally speaking.

Speaking of the surrounding country I should note the immense quantity of ground wasted by the Chinese by graves; in all parts this is the case, and in the neighbourhood of towns to a very great extent. You see numerous little mounds all over the country which are never touched, and I cannot but think the providence of the Chinese in using every possible means for raising food is much too highly rated at home.

The river is nearly three-quarters of a mile wide opposite the city, and a fine place for junks to lie, but narrows above and below. At present the number of junks is small, this being the idle season here, and I doubt whether, at any rate, the Chinese shipping trade has not suffered much from the trade of the British here, as they used to bring up from the Straits long cloths, and many things which paid well, in which they are now undersold by the Europeans.

June 19.—Very warm day. Dined at Mr. Empson's of Blenkin, Rawson & Co. (Christopher Empson). Met Chas. Beale, McCulloch of Turner & Co., and Captain Gordon of H.M.S. *Wolf*. Dinner hour, 4 o'clock, after which a walk, and when dark the party re-assembled and had tea, sherry cobbler, etc.; home at half-past 9.

Saturday June 20.—Warm day. C. Empson dined, and in the evening went to visit Dr. and Mrs. Lockhart, with whom we spent the evening.

Sunday June 21.—Attended service in the Consulate. Rev. [name unknown] of the Church Missionary Society conducted the exercises and preached, Mr. Medhurst leading the music with grand dissenting tunes.

June 23.—A pagoda of five storeys was in sight a long time; they are always of five, seven, or nine storeys. At Wongdoo, a large, long town, we entered a joss house, followed by a large crowd which had gradually accumulated. It occupied one side of a square—opposite was a theatre or the stage—and the other two sides are divided into boxes, upper and lower, for spectators; in the centre a beautiful cast metal vase about nine feet in circumference. Mr. Medhurst preached to them for about six or eight minutes. The people eagerly took the books distributed by the missionaries, and all seemed quite friendly and pleased.

Chinese metaphors very expressive. "By gathering grains of sand we shall raise a pyramid" (lit. a pagoda).

June 26.—Visited the pagoda near Shanghai, seven floors, with a wooden stair from one to the other. The view from the top very beautiful. But what interested me most were the colossal figures in the neighbouring joss houses, magnificent figures in richly coloured dresses, and in every attitude of war and peace. They are eighteen in number, and represent the first disciples of Buddha in China. These temples appear to be going to decay. There is generally in the middle a figure of Buddha of enormous size, sometimes three, the past, present, and future, in front of which is the large cast pot for incense, the other eighteen figures being ranged round the walls on a raised platform. In one the centre figure was a woman and child with a curtain partially drawn; everything else in the place looked exactly like the others. It struck me, however, that, as they appear to be going to decay, this one may have been taken possession of by the Roman Catholics, who are very numerous here.

Sunday June 28.—The hottest day I have experienced.

Went to the Consulate Chapel; American missionary preached. Their service book, which I saw for the first time, slightly altered from the Church of England, but not in essentials.

Thermometer in my chair 100°, and in Lockhart's house, open air, 98°; his sitting room under the punkah 97° (my own thermometer, which is a steady, good one). At two went to Mr. Medhurst's to witness the Chinese service, which he conducts three times a Sunday and twice or thrice in the week. The attendance amounted to 96 or 100, and for the most part attentive. At one part (the subject was part of a course on Joseph) there was a general rustling and momentary titter, showing the interest they were taking; there were six women. He had a short prayer before and after sermon. The sermon had been previously printed, and was distributed to all on going out.

Dined at Medhursts'; kind people. Young Medhurst is interpreter to the Consulate; a very nice fellow. Fifteen opium vessels at Woosung.

Started in a boat for Woosung about 7.15 p.m. this day, and reached the *Folkestone* at 10, after a very pleasant run. Left my thick shooting jacket in the boat and lost it. Paid $1 for the boat, which was manned only by two lads. Dallas and C. Ker, who goes to Chusan, were with me.

Monday June 29.—Under way in the *Audax*, Captain Thomas Sullivan, at 5.30 a.m., and sailed out safely with the tide and a light southerly breeze. The food capital; Ker and I occupying the captain's after-cabin, and very comfortable. Our object was to reach Chusan harbour, and, if favourable opportunity offered, to drop me off

Ningpo, where I was desirous to land. Had a nice quiet run to the middle group, and the tide coming strongly against us as it had been in our favour, we anchored for the night in a fathom. At 5 a.m. weighed and set sail, 30th June, Tuesday, for the passage nearest Ningpo, passing Broken Island within a mile and a half. (The mate is a Mr. Partridge, who was wrecked with the *Ann* on the Island of Formosa and imprisoned with Mr. Gully.) The view all round is beautiful, high hills in the distance and smaller ones close at hand. The citadel of Chinhae, where our troops were quartered, is a very picturesque and striking object, seen from a great distance when coming in as we did. The boats of a good shape here; various shapes in every district of China. Many of these carry on either side large kind of panniers (I don't know how otherwise to describe them). Arrived at Ningpo about 3. An English ship, the *New Margaret*, in the river, loaded with teas by Mackenzie, Turner & Co. of Shanghai. The famous *Nemesis* is anchored off Mr. Thom's house, a long low craft painted quite black. The heat in coming up the river was something dreadful; the thermometer must have been at 105° at least under our thick matted awning; all the evening was hot also. We sailed up the river in the *Nemesis'* boat a few miles; slept in the open court on a couch with musquito curtains, but from the heat and the musquitoes getting in in large numbers, had little sleep.

July 1.—Up at 4 and walked through the town; visited the pagoda, a fine old one, of which the verandahs were burned away fifty years ago. The temple of Confucius without an image in it, but with the name of the sage enshrined, and the names of many distinguished disciples ranged round the room on red boards in gilt letters. Here

our troops were quartered. The ceilings, three domes, are beautifully painted and carved. In the court is a pond, and a fine stone bridge over which the students walk when they take their degree. Another fine joss house, that of the Fokien men, contained a beautiful goddess of heaven and a fine stage for theatricals, with boxes round the court in the usual style. The carving, colouring, and gilding very fine indeed, and the old vases for incense six or eight feet in circumference, with figures and characters, some carved stone pillars, very fine also. Shops good, and a few curiosity shops, but already they have learned to be exorbitant, and I bought nothing. The Chinese don't allow paper with printing on it to be trampled on, and it is a work of merit to hire a man to go and collect paper and books to be burned.

Dr. McCartney, the American missionary, told me he was the fourth generation of a Highland family who *went over.*

Visited Miss Aldersey, a lady who devotes herself and her small means to the education of Chinese girls, having been five years at Sourabaya, a Dutch settlement in the Straits, where men missionaries are prohibited. She seems a very nice person, and we sat an hour or more with her. The children read Chinese and English (a few only). She has a teacher to teach Chinese. They were working embroidery when we entered, little shoes, etc., and also went through a little simple arithmetic. There were twenty-four.

To-day the heat and closeness dreadful. The commodore and suite, with the British consul and two American medical missionaries, dined at 2 with the prefect (Yan is his name, and his designation the Taou-tai), a very respectable man. All went off nicely. At 8 p.m. Ker and I

took leave of Thom, a kind-hearted fellow. Our boat is a fine large one, and we started at the hour of the tide, hoping with a good wind to reach Chusan before the next flood. But the wind, which had varied all day, came in gusts from the northward, and after beating against it all through the tide we were obliged to anchor above Chinhae. Weighed at 11 a.m., 2nd July; reached Tinghae harbour at 3 p.m. The navigation of the islands is very intricate, and the currents being strong, vessels can only go in when the tide is favourable. They are rather pretty, and cultivated to the utmost by the natives, who supply the mainland with vegetables.

The hills have a singular appearance, under cultivation to the very top of the steepest and highest, which I have nowhere seen before. Ker and I landed and went to the brigadier's camp till I received a note from Street. The brigadier was most kind and we dined with him, Street joining us—after I had had, on his pony, with Haythorne, Street, and a Mr. Parish (of the Ningpo Civil Establishment), a ride of two hours, which greatly pleased me. We passed through the city, making our exit by the north gate. First visited a house for hatching ducks' eggs by artificial heat, and saw the process in all its stages. About 400 or 500 ducklings had been born within the preceding twenty-four hours or so, and were huddled together in three or four large baskets, cheeping. Going into the top of a valley with some pretty spots in it, and fine thriving paddy to a large extent, we came on a splendid view of what is called Anstruther's Valley, from the capture of Captain Anstruther while sketching there. It is a lovely valley, rising gently by terraces to the foot of the hills by which it is surrounded. The bamboo groves, too delicate and grace-

ful for description by pen or pencil, with the mixture of dark pines and other trees and shrubs, with the stone dyke fences—altogether the ensemble was very beautiful.

The island is a succession of hills and valleys, and abounds in woodcock, deer and other game, which our officers have found excellent sport during the cool season. During nine months of the year they almost universally declare that a finer island as a residence they could not desire.

About ten, pulled off to the *Audax*, which had moved out to be ready for sea, and at daylight on 3rd July (Friday), Captain Carr of the *Hellas* having come on board, we moved out through the Melville Channel to the eastward, towed by the long-boat and Captain Carr's gig . . . at 9 p.m. anchored.

July 4.—Weighed at 6 a.m. with light south-east breeze. Islands near, odd names: Starboard, Jack, The Corkers, The Whelps, Tinker, etc.

Thursday 9.—Appearance of change. Wind south by west, but returned S.S.W. at 8 a.m. All these islands are green on top, but uninhabited apparently, and huge rocky sides, often fine peaks.

Friday July 10.—A better wind during the night. Rather hot to-day. Thermometer 86° in cabin. Crew of *Audax* of many nations—English, Irish, French, Italian, Portuguese, Arabs, Nubians, Chinese, with natives of India and of the Malay Peninsula. No Scotch but myself.

Sunday July 12.—Passed Matheson's Bay, a fine open bay to the N.E. of Chinchew, with good shelter in either monsoon. Sandy beach, barren volcanic rocks; splendid hills behind, inland. Not far off a fine stone bridge of 165 flat arches, twenty-eight feet wide each—one of the

hers of Fokien, said to have cost twenty million taels
rose.

t 4 p.m. passed in sight of the anchorage at Chinchew
saw the *Harlequin* and *Louise* receiving-ships, which of
se answered our signals. To go in would have cost a
the entrance being difficult and narrow, through rocks.
night, tacked off Chimho Bay; too dark to see the
ping.

Monday 13.—Spoke *Warlock* coming out of Amoy, and
ored ourselves by the shipping at Goosoo at 3 p.m.
mpanied by Captain Duncan Forbes and T. Sullivan,
t the opium anchorage in a China boat for Amoy.
boat of a very broad beam, with an enormous, heavy
sail, manned by eleven men. We made out the little
ge in two hours and landed at the Bund in front of
es' hong at 9 o'clock. Clear, starry night. The hong
large store, solid, and divided into several compart-

Trade of the place chiefly with the Straits and Manila.

July 16.—Evening, was much struck by the great refraction. Was puzzled by what I conceived to be an extraordinary-rigged three-masted junk, in the offing, at the distance, by bearings taken at the time, of four miles. On carefully looking through the glass for some time, discovered it was a small fishing boat with three men in it, and which, although really much below the horizon, was made to appear by the refraction of light as perched up rather above it. The captain was much amused at my mistake, the phenomenon being common. Made very slow way to-day, dead calms prevailing.

July 17.—Fine weather, but very hot. 5 p.m., spoke the American ship *Tonquin*—she drifting towards Amoy.

July 18.—8 a.m., passed close to the Danish man-of-war *Galathea* beating up the coast, apparently going in to Namoa.

July 20.—Saw H.M.S. *Vestal* coming out of the Lyemoon, and at 2 we entered it, and anchored off East Point at a quarter past 3. At night it blew very hard—thankful to have got in.

The diary does not clearly say whether Mr. Matheson visited Manila after his return to Hong Kong. He intended to do so, and evidently made many inquiries about the state of matters there—trade, products, etc. The following paragraph of the diary apparently refers to that place:—

A more corrupt set of officials surely cannot be conceived, and it would appear that people have no scruples

in paying them with their own coin (never justifiable and most impolitic, say I).

On August 14 at 10 p.m. the *Lady Mary Wood*, with English mail to June 24, anchored in Hong Kong harbour. D. and I had gone to our rooms and were fast asleep when roused by Joseph with the London mail, sent by Captain Evans, and *The Singapore Extra Times*. We were kept up all night in consequence reading news and the letters, which arrived at a quarter past 1 from the Post Office.

September 10.—At 9 a.m. William Stewart died at his house, Ellen Bank. He had been ill about four days. How little do we know what an hour may bring forth!

The same forenoon letters by the *Cowasjee Family* arrived, and in *The Friend of India* of July 23 I was much pained to read the announcement of Dr. Innes' death. Poor Jane! I hope to hear from her by the coming mail.

Curious fact that many of the best opium clippers have been *slavers*.

September 15.—Set out for a visit to Macao, being very poorly and feeling need of change.

September 24.—Returned yesterday from Macao in the *Celestial* alone; felt much improved in health. While there spent most of my time with Mr. and Mrs. F. McQueen, who were most attentive and pressingly hospitable. The Governor, Señor Amaral, was very attentive to me. On hearing of my arrival he came to McQueen's, calling out while he was yet on the stair that he was come to make a prisoner of me. He did ask me to his house to live, but I declined. However, he must needs give a dinner on the occasion, an affair of fourteen, which went off well,

and did credit to his hospitality. All the English there and the principal Frenchmen.

On my return, heard of poor Thom at Ningpo, not expected to live a few hours—another report that he is dead.

September 24.—Were surprised this evening by the entrance of Macleod and Captain Jauncy, who reported the total loss of the *Warlock* off Chinchew, on 16th instant; cable having parted in a severe north-east gale, she got on shore. All hands saved, though with great difficulty, from the crowd of Chinamen who immediately collected on the shore for plunder.

September 26.—Had a bad headache all day and next; Sunday very severe, preventing all occupation. Saturday, called on Mrs. Ker, G. Smith, Mr. Braine, Kennedy, Cairns.

By Joseph's desire, sat to Lamqua for him—two and a half hours; on Monday two hours, and Tuesday one hour; and the likeness was, I think, pretty fair for the short time. "Mr. Jardine talkee my come paint you handsome face."

September 29.—2 p.m. *Braganza* weighed, and steamed out by the Lyemoon passage. Lovely day. Donald, Joseph, Macleod, etc., came on board.

On getting to sea, found a fine north-east wind, and carried all sail on the foremast, studding sails out. Eight knots. Received every kindness from the officers on board. The purser secured me in my cabin alone. Captain Mundy gave me the seat of honour on his left, Captain Stead, the Admiralty agent, being, as always, on his right. Passed the night very well in my berth. No sickness.

September 30.—Rose at 6.15 a.m. Fine morning. Much less wind, and taking in sail, except jib and foremast stay-sail. Calm sea, and very little motion, which was a great comfort.

Comfortable ship, and from its size and arrangements more suited than the *Lady Mary* for an Eastern station. Last evening observed in the sky a singular white streak, which moved about like a serpent, but continued its long thin form. Ascertained by the glass that it was a flock of white birds on a journey, all following each other, and guided, doubtless, by a leader.

October 1.—Good night's rest, though very heavy this morning. Thermometer rose to 84°. Very calm sea, which is a great comfort.

October 2.—Latitude 13°. Thermometer rising to 86°. My health certainly on the whole very much improved. Weather calm; sea as smooth as glass.

October 7.—The good ship anchored in Singapore harbour. Landed at 6 a.m. No steamer for Calcutta in port. The hotel of M. Datrongnoy still as good as ever. Weather warm.

October 8.—At 10 a.m. sailed.

At Penang, 10th, at 4.40 a.m. Sailed for Ceylon at 3 p.m., and after pretty fresh breezes from the south-west, arrived off Galle on the evening of the 17th, too late to enter the harbour, and lay off with the *Hindustan* till daylight, when we entered together. It was Sunday, and a bustling day. I went to the Mansion House Hotel.

Sailed from Galle in the *Bentinck* on October 30, at 7 p.m.; and with beautiful weather and smooth sea reached Madras at 11.50 a.m. on November 2. The land is low, and we only discovered it at 8.20, but by 9 the guns on shore and signals (I afterwards learnt) were announcing our being in sight. It is rather a pretty place. The neighbourhood is beautifully green, and the houses of the residents are good, and with abundance of roomy compounds

and fine broad roads. I admire it much. Thermometer 88°; rather hotter than they expect at this season.

Drove out to Sir E. Gambier, and was most warmly received by Lady Gambier, Miss Morgell, and the Judge himself. They pressed me extremely, and I promised to announce by dāk the steamer by which I should arrive. Miss Morgell kindly gave me a letter she had had from Mrs. Innes, of October 16. Sat down with them to the most delicious little dinner—their tiffin—along with Chief Justice Sir Lawrence Peel, who was to be my fellow-passenger, having been, as well as Sir John Peter Grant, at the Neilgherries for his health during the vacation of the Court.

Called afterwards at Arbuthnot's, and saw Mr. McTaggart. Had no time for more visits, the ship only remaining six or seven hours, and I having promised to go off with Sir Lawrence Peel. Binney Key sent six baskets of potatoes to J., S. & Co. as my luggage—as a *cumshā*.

The landing was quite safe, there being little surf; but it is always amusing. The men make a horrid noise, keeping time and tune (?) to the oars, and hurrahing as they cross a breaker. One splash came in, but wet no one, and the boat was driven up broadside on the beach, each man being handed out singly in a chair arranged for the purpose. I got into a palkee which was waiting, and off to Binney's at once.

Sailed at 7.50 p.m., a gun having been fired some time before. Sorry to say left one man behind, a Lieutenant Young, Bengal Artillery, whom I liked, as he was intelligent and agreeable, and was fond of walking, so that we paced the deck with great vigour together. The weather continued remarkably fine, and on the 3rd we had the most

nt sunset, the full moon opposite in great magnifi-
This sunset was second only to that which we had
night we reached Ceylon in the *Braganza*.
le the acquaintance of Captain Drummond, of the
Cavalry, and of his wife, a daughter of Dr. Greville.
full of the mineral wealth of India, and is certainly
able in much that he advances on that subject. It
s there is a large quantity of iron made in India for
use, from the ore on the surface, charcoal fire being
l, and a rude hammer; and he thinks that, by the
tion of skill and European management, much might
ne towards supplying India with iron on its own
instead of importing from England and Sweden.
ns there is some of a very fine quality, equal to the
h. On a ride from Benares for about eighty miles,
ears that the road is macadamised with iron stone,
n specimens of which he took home to the India
and was glad to find it pronounced as good as

to London several months later, gives his impressions of what he saw of mission work in Calcutta:—

To the Rev. James Hamilton

London *April 17th* 1847

I am desirous of complying, to the best of my ability, with the wish expressed by yourself and other friends, that I should put in writing some of the facts gathered, and the views formed, during my late visit to the East, bearing upon the plan for a mission to the heathen, which has so long been contemplated by our Synod. I find this the more difficult that I am not in possession of so many details regarding existing missions as you might desire to learn, and am, therefore, obliged to give you rather the impressions which were made on my own mind than exact data to assist you in forming such for yourself.

I visited missionary institutions in Egypt, in China, in Bengal, on the coast of Malabar, and in the Island of Ceylon.

It will not surprise you that I should place first, both as being on the largest scale and as affording by far the highest style of training, the Free Church Institution at Calcutta, where God has prospered so signally the work of the able and devoted missionaries. It was with a thrilling interest, far surpassing my anticipations, that I had the privilege on several occasions of seeing the work going forward. You can perhaps imagine the interest of hearing the higher class of fifteen or twenty youths, led on in a conversational way by Dr. Duff, prove by the clearest reasoning the fallacies of Hinduism and Vedantism, the errors of Material-

d Spiritualism, and directly the truth of the glorious
es of Christianity. With the exception of three or
hese lads were unconverted, but had an intelligent
ntance with the Bible; and I think there are not a
whom such knowledge has done all that it can do,
o entirely believe with their understanding. Seeing
e can enter into the earnestness of the appeals from
ta for prayer and sympathy. An outpouring of the
Spirit there would at once strengthen the cause with
amount of useful Christian agency. Nowhere else
see the attempt made to raise the standard of educa-
t all so high, or to draw out and employ the intel-
powers of the students, as is here done; and yet
rst to last the great end of their conversion to Chris-
is openly announced and kept in view.

w me here to say that I trust our Church will never
to feel a warm interest in this and the other Indian

voice it would seem to be with a kind of despair, because he finds his powers unequal to making an impression sufficiently deep on his far too apathetic hearers. It is a true cry that these men raise, and from this very institution in Calcutta they could, if they had means and a few men, extend their operations by establishing more branch schools, in which their excellent and able catechists would afford them valuable assistance.

CHAPTER III

Family Life : Letters

Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage."—*Ps.* cxix. 54.

CHAPTER III

Family Life : Letters

THE following extracts from private letters are given with a view to show a little of his home life, and to indicate some of his more personal interests.

In some of these he refers to illnesses which, ever after the severe attack of typhus in Glasgow already mentioned, obliged him from time to time to take rest and relaxation. After marriage, too, his life became naturally a less retired one, and his highly-strung nerves always required rest after the strain of city business or other public engagements.

Several of the letters which follow are addressed to his sister Isabella. She was very delicate, and he made a home for her in his own house in Tavistock Square, which, on her account, needed to be kept very quiet. It was our privilege to have her with us at Heathlands for the last five years of her life. Mr. Matheson only survived her a few months.

Every one who knew her loved her for her sin-

y beautiful character. Her stately presence anded the reverence of old and young. As a once remarked, "a Matheson transfigured."

Matheson had so many friends that it is im-ble to mention them all; but we cannot omit Mr. James E. Mathieson and Mr. James Ander-The former was a lad in his father's office in ow when Mr. Matheson was there as a clerk, e became a life-long friend. They served on Hampstead Session and on the Foreign Missions nittee, side by side, for many years, and were ly attached. Mr. James Anderson lived with Matheson in early years at Hampstead, and when vards they each had a home there, they fre-ly met. Mr. Anderson, too, was a Hampstead

To the same

Autumn 1847

Now less than ever can we know what a day may bring forth. The distress that prevails on all sides among commercial people is more severe than can be conceived by any one not on the spot. Never in my life have I seen so many faces of gloom and despair as within the last fortnight; and no merchant is exempt from great anxiety, while over not a few ruin is certainly impending. We were to have a day of thanksgiving next Sabbath, but the Synod having also desired reference to be made to the prevailing distress, I think to many of us it will be a day of mourning and fasting, for which I for one never felt so disposed. I feel for the poor souls who have little else but their money, and are now, therefore, losing all their *portion*. They can still have a better. May God lead many to seek it!

To the same

3 Lombard Street *New Year's Day* 1849

. . . I hardly know how to refer to the affecting account of the Lord's afflictive dealings still with you. You have never been for any long time absent from my affectionate and warm remembrance. I can only now pray that the Lord will deal gently with her, and with you whose heart is so torn, and will sweetly prepare her for all His will, and you also. This I do and will continue to do. But my poor prayers have not been of late months what I once found them to myself, and I have had much heaviness lately about this. Singular that, at such a time, the church should have been led to invite me, in a strong way, to take office as an elder, to which I shall be ordained,

ive others, next Sabbath. Although I urged *youth*, ant of Christian experience, as in my opinion making pedient to appoint me, I did not feel called on, when urged, to be peremptory in refusal, and for this , among others, that I cannot lightly set aside anything will unite me more closely with God's people and and afford me a refuge from the trials and anxieties rable from a business life. And He will, I trust, race according to my need of it for all the duties.

To the same

44 TAVISTOCK SQUARE *March* 10*th* 1854

. The weak state of my own health has led me to nt to a scheme of banishment for some months. ye is nearly well [after an attack of ophthalmia]; but fortnight's recreation at Clifton, I find myself quite or work, and am about proceeding to the continent,

enjoyed it enormously, and my health was very much benefited. We visited Cannes, Nice, Mentone, Genoa, Turin, and the Waldensian valleys. At Cannes, I spent ten delightful days on a visit to Dr. Charles Mackintosh, of Tain, and his dear family, George Brown being also with them. It was when I was there that Dr. Mackintosh got the call to Dunoon, which, on the ground of health, it was thought well to accept, although the blow was a terrible one for the people of Tain and the north. It was a rare treat to see so much of this ripe Christian minister and friend, whose conversation was most profitable. I used to meet him in early days at Kildary, and afterwards in Glasgow, on his occasional visits there.

But the greatest interest of this tour was my first introduction to the Vaudois, amongst whom I spent a month on this occasion, Mr. Campbell proceeding home in advance. Dr. J. P. Revel (the president of the "Table"), Mr. Lantaret, Mr. Meille, Mr. B. Tron, and others, became life-long friends. The perusal some time previously of Dr. McDuff's first book, *The Exiles of Lucerna*, had filled me with an earnest desire to visit the valleys, and to become acquainted with such an intensely interesting people, and I was not disappointed. This visit, which followed only a few years after the emancipation of the Vaudois by Charles Albert, and their becoming free citizens of the kingdom of Sardinia, really of Piedmont, was the more interesting as one saw them beginning to take their place among their fellow-countrymen, having till that time been under the greatest civil disabilities, and practically confined within their own valleys. And no sooner were their civil disabilities removed, which was only in the year 1848, than they became the most active agents in proclaiming over

hat gospel truth for holding which they had so long
ed at her hands.
as introduced to the great Cavour, and other notables
tood by him in the noble stand he took so success-
for the deliverance of Italy from the dominion of
ia, and which eventually led to the overthrow of the
oral power of the Pope, and the unification of Italy
Victor Emmanuel.
e visit was the beginning of an intimate intercourse
friendship with the leading men of the Vaudois,
om I have often been able to be of service, having
l with Dr. Stewart, of Leghorn, the greatest friend
have ever had, in measures for the consolidation of
Church's glorious work in the mission field of Italy.
e several times attended their Synod as a deputy
our Church, and twice spoken in French and once in
sh. Many of them have visited us at Hampstead;

meet him in Edinburgh, when he gave me £500, to be devoted to the Lord's work in connection with missions as I might judge best.

Following chronologically on this continental tour (to the Waldensian Valleys in 1854) comes my marriage in 1855,[1] in the prospect of which I had secured this house, Heathlands, in the previous November; and here for thirty-six years (1891) we have had our happy home. We were married at No. 6, Randolph Crescent, Edinburgh, by Sir Henry Wellwood Moncrieff, on the 20th July in that year. It is curious that the minister who baptized me in infancy was the famous Sir Harry Moncrieff, the grandfather of Sir Henry. Having gone to reside in lodgings at Hampstead, while getting Heathlands ready in the spring of 1855, I was instrumental in getting a call given to the Rev. J. D. Burns to become minister of the Hampstead congregation. Mr. Burns was living with me at the time, and, on returning from the meeting, I obtained his acceptance of the call. Next morning I set out for Edinburgh, and a few days later had the great happiness of announcing my engagement.

To Miss McFarlan

44 Tavistock Square *April* 1855

Oh! do not cease to pray that we may be kept from the snares of our position, and enabled to live supremely to the

[1] To Agnes Ann McFarlan, only daughter of David McFarlan, chief magistrate of Calcutta in the East India Company's service, second son of John McFarlan, advocate, of Ballencleroch, Stirlingshire.

f our blessed God, and avoid that hateful middle which so grieves the Holy Spirit and destroys the ess of many, who are nevertheless not finally let go. hankful I am at having ever resisted the alluring ishing me to live at the West End. It would have difficult and trying position.

To the same

44 TAVISTOCK SQUARE *April 27th*

. After putting this letter in the Post Office I am out with my things to a little lodging at the top hill, in which Mr. Burns [Rev. J. D. Burns] lives, ich is only two minutes' walk from Heathlands. It trust, be a little sanctuary to me for the next few hough it is affecting to leave the spot where I now which has been for five years the witness of my life.

having nearly crushed his timid nature. I had not only to be exceedingly firm with him, and to weigh every argument well, but to pray for him very earnestly, and he got through better than he expected. This morning he is relieved, and to divert his mind I mentioned after breakfast that I had in my hands more than half a million of property that might be seriously affected by the news of this morning, and to his utter amazement, in answer to a question, could add that for forty-eight hours the subject had never once touched my mind. So soon as I get into Heathlands he is to come with me, and the change will do him good.

To the same

3 LOMBARD STREET *May 1st* 1855

. . . I am very glad you are going to Lasswade to see my aunt. She is identified in my mind, or rather I am in hers, with the metre version of the 121st Psalm, which you mention enjoying so much. It was one of my favourites, and had not struck her until hearing me (then a wee bit boy to your aunt's content) recite it at bedtime down in Ross-shire. She told me once that she has prized it ever since. That and the 23rd and the 30th paraphrase I remember having always liked best.

To the same

3 LOMBARD STREET *May 16th* 1855

. . . I think it is always better to avoid every taint of poison in the mental food one takes. Doubts are suggested with infinitely more ease than they are solved; and how unbounded should be our gratitude for the form of sound words in which, blessed be God, we have been trained *from earliest days*, without, as thousands of good

e are, being tossed about between conflicting views, modern and ancient.

To MRS. R. BROWN

June 5th 1855

. I am now living at Hampstead, in one of the est spots I have ever seen. I shall be anxious to her here without much wandering.

To MISS MCFARLAN

HEATHLANDS *June 8th* 1855

. My young grey has been very ill and become imid, and must have been maltreated. He exhibited alarm on several occasions, and a strong desire to go home. Time was when this would have roused my nation, but I have been these few days very patient gentle with him, giving him lots of time to stand and

HEATHLANDS, HAMPSTEAD.

occasion of our sitting together at the Lord's table, and in such circumstances it was a season of much serious thought and I hope of a renewed dedication, somewhat hearty, to the service of "Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood."

To MRS. R. BROWN

3 LOMBARD STREET *November 14th* 1855

. . . My domestic happiness is very great, and I feel it to constitute a great responsibility.

To the same

HAMPSTEAD *September 20th* 1856

. . . I have now to ask you to join in our heart-felt thanksgivings for the safety of my precious wife and the gift of a little daughter. Thus has a crowning blessing come upon unworthy me, and my heart is full to overflowing.

In 1857 our country was thrilled with horror by the news of the mutiny of the native troops in India, which was accompanied by unparalleled atrocities. Lieutenant David McFarlan, my brother, and James Innes, my husband's cousin, were in Lucknow during the siege of nearly six months, and no letters were received from them all that time. Our mother's faith in God never wavered, and her believing prayers were wonderfully answered.

The following letters refer to the great anxiety of those months:—

To the same

LONDON *October 19th* 1857

[illegible] comforting to hear of your prayer-meetings for India [illegible] time of the Mutiny]. The tidings of each mail thus [illegible]ve been looked for with most intense feeling, and [illegible]n they begin to mend very decidedly in their tone, [illegible]any private sorrows remain unrelieved it is difficult [illegible]angers to conceive.

To his wife

3 LOMBARD STREET LONDON

[illegible] . The telegraphic news is again very distress-[illegible]nd we must await the details with some alarm. I [illegible]vour to feel assured that all is well with David, [illegible]n there has been a sortie from the garrison, and the [illegible]n whom so much confidence has been placed—Sir

approaches, one's anxiety to know the reality would intensify beyond endurance, were it not that we can commit all to a gracious Father in heaven who doeth all things well, and giveth grace for all our need if we truly seek Him. I feel the whole thing oppress and humble my spirit more than anything I remember. Indeed, nothing is recorded in the history of the world that can compare with this in the terrible nature of the atrocities.

To the same

LONDON *October 1st* 1857

This is very trying indeed, but I have by no means given them up. General Neill writes to Government from Cawnpore, 18th August: "Native accounts from Lucknow represent them holding out well, and the enemy making no impression." It is also very confidently stated that they have got in fresh stores, during the absence of the force fighting with General Havelock.

I feel sad, however, and their case is now extremely serious.

On 28th November, nearly two months later than the last letter quoted, he received a telegram from India:—

McFarlan and Innes safe in Lucknow, also John Farquhar. Tell Sir Minto.—Calcutta, October 22.

To REV. GEORGE BROWN, *brother of James Brown*

January 2nd 1858

. . . I sometimes look back on the few memorials of Glasgow days that I possess, and the retrospect has a

ulating tendency. It makes me sigh for the freshness at early period in the spiritual life, of which I feel as e body and mind were now incapable. But that is an , and its more wholesome fruit would be to bring me y knees more. Dear James is never absent at these s of review.

To his wife

QUEEN'S HOTEL, MANCHESTER *April 21st* 1858

. . Last evening among other things [in the Synod] ad a report from the Committee on the State of gion, and some interesting remarks after it, includ- speech from the American clergyman, Dr. McClean, addressed us in London. He described the revivals merica, and altogether interested the Synod greatly. suggested a prayer-meeting next morning at *six* for as as chose to join, and he would meet them then, and

seven years. Much mercy has been meted out to me, and I desire to abound with gratitude. My health stands better than usual.

To the same

TRAIN BETWEEN YORK AND NEWCASTLE
May 1859

Never was a finer or brighter day for a journey. We have a nice quiet carriage, and the dust is our only slight annoyance. The last glimpse which I had of my loved ones will be a pleasant memory till I come back, if it please God, end of next week.

To the same

ARDROSS *May 31st* 1859

Another bright day has brought us here in time for lunch, by post carriages, a mode of conveyance Davy admired much, though the laird of course chaffed me for my extravagance. Time being an object, and all these comfortable modes of getting air and admiring scenery contributing much to health, I do not in the least agree with him.

Aunt Johan and the children are quite well. The two did not know me, till nurse produced our little darling's miniature from the chimney-piece. They both look very well.

I left Davy to the laird after lunch, in order to accompany Aunt Johan to the death-bed of a woman near. She is sinking of exhaustion evidently, and does not say much. I prayed with her, her husband and daughter being present and grateful. It is a solemn sight. One has a right to entertain charitable views in such cases—at

same time must be faithful in putting the right ground
ope and trust in a dying hour.
Ve shall take the outside of coach on *Highland road.*
at do you think of that, which you know is such in-
ration to me?

To the same

ARDROSS *June 1st*

he great discovery I have made to-day with peculiar
sfaction is that I can get home on Saturday night and
nd a quiet Sunday with you.
am writing in my own room, our old and regular
rters, at your wee table, but I can't find the black
ssing] bag anywhere. But I will think of you ten-
y.

To the same

To MRS. R. BROWN

LONDON *July 5th* 1862

It is touching to us to find how many rejoice at the birth of our son, some of whom I know will give us the benefit of their prayers.

To his sister ISABELLA

HEATHLANDS *January 29th* 1863

You will be concerned to hear that our sweet little baby has been very seriously ill, though I trust I may now say the worst symptoms have passed. Yesterday he was doing, as we thought, most favourably. In the night, however, he was not so well, and the doctor suggested I should have Dr. A. P. Stewart out to consult. Before they came, however, a favourable change had occurred, and they feel much hope that the sweet little man is now to do well.

It has been a time of much trial, for I never could have believed the little fellow could have made such a change to me. His fond and winning smiles were always ready for me, and he has wonderfully lighted up our home, already so happy. But we tried to leave him without reserve in a most loving Father's hand, and I think he is to be spared this time. May the lesson be really learned, and our hearts drawn out to Him who gives these precious blessings, but will not allow us to forget Him.

To the same

January 31st 1863

There were alarming symptoms last night, which induced nurse to wish me at hand, so I never left him. The dear little patient was very uncomfortable, but I am thankful to

he bad symptoms diminished, and this morning he is ntly more relieved than he has yet been. You will ppy to hear this, and will join us in our thanksgiving. nust still, however, be prepared for changes.

To the same

February 2nd 1863

e little one is much better to-day. We felt it a ege to have the prayers of the congregation yesterday. Burns also came up.

To the same

LONDON *February 26th* 1863

have almost decided to make a run to Clifton to-ow afternoon to see how you are getting on—not more, ver, than one word for you, two being for myself.

The little lamb has been suffering much, and we watch beside him continually, while all that human skill can do to alleviate has hitherto proved unavailing. You have been much upon my mind all day when I felt that I must break to you these heavy tidings. But the Lord is with us, by many tokens, and supports us, and He will support you. In your tender sympathy for us remember that Jesus is near, and if He is claiming the little lamb, it is to take him into His own bosom for ever, safe from the trials and temptations of this life.

To the same

HEATHLANDS *March* 31*st* 1863

God has graciously released our little darling at half-past two this morning.

We are thus early called to part with our sweet treasure, graciously given, and as graciously withdrawn for ends which we can even now partly see, through our tears.

Dr. Stewart has done the part of a true friend, and been an unspeakable comfort to us. He came in the evening to sit up with us, and superintended all to the last with a tenderness which nothing could exceed. And this morning he conducted our family devotions in a prayer which none of us can forget.

Agnes is supported by a good and loving Father, and darling Mary is well. I am myself seized with a return of the eye affection, brought on probably by emotion and excitement, but partly also by cold. This will prevent my writing much. Try to cheer up, as we do, by the thought of the bliss into which our sweet lamb has entered.

You saw his love for me. It was wonderful, and nothing ever drew out my heart like it. But God saw that there

danger of idolatry. Pray that this stroke may be
ed to accomplish its gracious and merciful end.

f this little one our dear friend Mrs. Rundle
rles, author of *Chronicles of the Schönberg-Cotta*
ily, wrote some beautiful lines entitled, "It is no
am."

* * * * *

is no dream, that Paradise immortal,
Where He who blessed the babes has welcomed thee;
arless the infants pass its solemn portal—
Borne in His arms, His face alone they see.

* * * * *

ll looking back, with this our child beside us,

To his sister ISABELLA

LONDON *December 28th* 1863

Your congratulatory letter was the first I received. The little one seems nice and strong. We think of naming her Annabella. If she is spared it will be a great joy. We do not, however, set our hearts too much upon it, and have, I think, learned that the will of the Lord is best.

Mr. Burns preached from "While Thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone." It was rather striking, and I think we shall print it. It will, I fear, be one of the last he will ever preach.

To the same

LONDON *February 20th* 1864

To-morrow our little Annabella is to be baptised by Dr. Hamilton.

In January, 1868, a son was born, and called after his father, Hugh Mackay Matheson.

The three children have been graciously spared.

In 1887, Annabella became the wife of Adam Rolland Rainy, son of Principal Rainy.

The following letter describes a visit to Dr. James Hamilton during his last illness.

To his wife

MARGATE *September 8th* 1867

It has been a very great treat coming to see dear Dr.

milton, and I have been agreeably surprised to find him
mind and feeling and conversation altogether himself,
just a little slowness and deliberation in his manner of
king. I have got most comfortable rooms in a house
them, and the weather is quite enchanting.
fter tea took my tray of splendid fruit and flowers in to
5, and found Dr. Hamilton was lying down. Soon after
ame into the drawing-room. He was very happy to
me, and I sat and talked beside him for half an hour at
, while the rest were holding other conversation among
nselves. In everything he said, and in the way he said
was just himself. He spoke of the sketch of Burns'
nd what he thought should be done towards complet-
it; then of his hope that others would see the union
ed into effect, though it was evidently postponed for
present. Asked about our minister at Strathpeffer and
ndred things. Spoke about his illness so nicely, and

your dear ones at Pau. You probably know that I had to succumb under the pressure of overwork, and the respite was all needed, and it has had some good effect. My intercourse with George was most refreshing to me. It is a visit that will mark one of the stages in life's journey.

From his own narrative :—

It has been my privilege to know many distinguished ministers and missionaries, and to have a number of them at my house. Through John Mackenzie Coul (a cousin), I became acquainted with his father-in-law, the great Dr. Chalmers, who was deeply interested in the progress of our Church in England. One of the last things he said to me was, "Whenever you come to Edinburgh, you must make it a part of your business to breakfast with us."

Dr. Duff of Calcutta was frequently with us, and I had intimate and important correspondence with him. I saw him first at Calcutta in the Institution, among his students, and at his house, surrounded by the principal converts at that time: Behari lal Singh, Jagadishwar Bhattachargea, Prosunnea Kumar Chatterjee, Lal Behari De, etc., etc. When he went last to India, in 1855, it was from our house.

Dr. Wilson of Bombay, Dr. Candlish, Sir Henry Moncrieff, Dr. Guthrie, Dr. Somerville, Dr. Rorie McLeod, Drs. David and Chas. J. Brown, Dr. Aird, Dr. Rainy, Dr. Kennedy and many distinguished men of the Free Church have stayed with us.

The following may be added from another memorandum of valued friends who visited his home :—

HUGH M. MATHESON

Dr. W. S. Mackay of Calcutta, Dr. Mackintosh Mackay, Dr. McCosh of Princeton, Dr. Murray Mitchell, Mr. Alexander Gillespie, Rev. John McNeil, Rev. R. W. McAll of Paris and Mrs. McAll, James Balfour, M.L.C., Melbourne, Sir Anthony and Lady Oliphant and Laurence Oliphant, Rev. F. Buscarlet of Pau, Rev. Dr. Willis of Toronto, Rev. John Braidwood of Madras, Rev. John Lodyce of Simla, Sir Donald McLeod, K.C.S.I., Rev. Narayan Sheshadri, D.D., of Jalna, Rev. P. Rajagopaul of Madras, Principal Miller, C.I.E., of Madras, Dr. Mullens, C.M.S., Dr. Bliss of Beyrout, Rev. Robert Taylor of Burwood, Dr. Harry Rainy and Miss Christina Rainy, Rev. Michael Connal of Glasgow, Rev. John Milne of Perth, etc., etc.

To his wife

None of Mr. Matheson's acquaintance need be told of the large-hearted and liberal, almost lavish, generosity with which he supported every cause in which he was interested. Of his private benefactions none but himself and those who shared them can tell the extent and number. It was to him one of the sore trials of the vicissitudes which almost inevitably attend a long and generally prosperous business career that at times it entailed upon him the necessity of restraining and controlling that liberality which he was always so ready to exercise, rather looking upon himself as a steward to whom had been entrusted good gifts for the benefit of others than as their owner.

It is to such a time that the following extracts belong :—

To his eldest daughter

LONDON *September 20th* 1882

. . . What a comfort it is to me to know that mother has you beside her just now [at Elsick]! This dark cloud is permitted for some great and wise and gracious design, and I have not the slightest doubt we shall all be made to feel that it was in love, and we shall have happy days together—I could hardly say happier than we have had.

To his great friend MRS. THOMAS CLEGHORN

HAMPSTEAD *October 14th* 1882

. . . I must be content to remain without the sympathy of friends, casting myself the more entirely on the

-failing support of the Brother born for adversity. I
ot doubt for a moment that there is a design of grace
me wonderful kind in what has been sent, and that
h it is dark, dark just now, it will be turned into
r of praise and thanksgiving by-and-by, even in this
"Although the fig tree shall not blossom," etc., has
s come home to me with peculiar tenderness. We
need of its comfort now.

To his wife

LONDON *July* 1883

. . Indeed it is wonderful how God has brought
hrough this year and been so good to us all.
ny nights I have been exhausting all my texts and
ure passages, and often wished I could remember
and had learned more when a boy.
I want is to be completely surrendered to my Father's

it on our darling's grave, not without a good flood of tears. He would have been twenty-one now, but oh, how far better!

To the same

At the REV. GEORGE BROWN'S, *Pau*
Sunday Night February 1884

. . . The oasis is now fading away, and I go forth into the desert, not without a good deal of anxiety. But I try to cast my burden on the Lord.

To his eldest daughter—travelling in Germany with her mother, who was in bad health

September 1886

. . . I feel every day the comfort of your helping mother in so many ways in her weakness, and joining her to hold me up in the long struggle which has been appointed for me, and in which hitherto the good Lord hath helped me, delivering me a thousand times out of great difficulty—and He will yet deliver. I have often been able to sing in the night, "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? Trust in God, *for I shall yet praise Him.*"

I am of course every day thankful for my children.

To his wife

HOTEL COLON, HUELVA *February 8th* 1885

. . . Tell Mary I have begun *Coligny*, which is very interesting and elevating. "His mercy is from generation to generation upon them that fear Him," the text that was for ever on the lips of Louise de Montmorency, is an unspeakable comfort to me when I think of the future of my children. My mother's prayers, followed by your own,

can never be forgotten, and though there may be dark clouds at present, there is a silver lining which speaks of the unfailing glory of the Sun of Righteousness—the infinite love and faithfulness of the Covenant Keeper.

To the same

3 LOMBARD STREET, LONDON *October 3rd* 1894

I was so glad to get your letter this morning. I got home about half-past nine after a very good journey. I had such a nice day yesterday. Getting to Edinburgh about two o'clock, I thought I would like to see our old haunts at Leith once more, and took the train down. Found all the gates of the churchyard closed, and the church officer living too far away to go after him. Saw our old house at Hermitage Place, just as of old, except a large bow window on dining-room. Looked in at the window of the room where my mother died. Saw the Court House,

the living, exalted Saviour—and shall enjoy that blessed rest of His beloved, and shall sit down with Him at that table which shall never be drawn.

He evidently had found the following lines a comfort, and copied them out:—

THE COMFORT OF GRACE

Sorrowful days and nights,
  Eyes aching with unshed tears,
A terrified dread of my future life
  And the pain of coming years.

O hopeless, wretched dawn
  Of another day of care!
How can I bear to meet its light,
  Its hourly duties share?

Suddenly, tenderly, sweetly
  A glorious thought is mine,
Come from my blessed Saviour's heart
  Into my heart to shine.

My child, "thine eyes shall see
  The King in His beauty" ere long.
Glorious, golden, precious words!
  Ah, they can make me strong.

Comfort beyond all tears,
  From Immanuel's land it came;
My Saviour King, who died for me,
  The glorious words proclaim,

Flooding with hope's sweet light
The darkness of that hour—
Those words which the Spirit brought me
By God's almighty power.

M. S. A.

CHAPTER IV

Church Life : English Presbyterianism

"Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thy house, and the place where Thine honour dwelleth."—*Ps.* xxvi. 8.

CHAPTER IV

Church Life : English Presbyterianism

FROM the year 1843, when he came to reside in London, till the year of his marriage, Mr. Matheson was associated with the congregation of Regent Square. Soon after he joined it, as early as December, 1844, he was elected a deacon, and in January, 1849, was ordained to the eldership, acting as session clerk for eight years.

On his marriage, in 1855, he removed to Hampstead, and settled in his beautiful home of Heathlands at the top of the hill. From that time to the close of his life he was a member of the Hampstead Session.

He was a father to us, and a tower of strength. Practically he founded this church, with a few friends, of whom he was the last survivor [its first meeting took place in his lodgings on Holly Hill]; and since then he has watched its progress with unfailing interest, and that kind, wise, fervent spirit which marked the man. And what he was to the congregation he was in a remarkable degree to a great number of us as individuals. If we were in trouble, he was ready to comfort; in perplexity, willing

advise. If we had his countenance in anything, we felt onfident of success. He had much of his native granite bout him—a strong man; and yet how tender, with the nderness of strength! How his eye would glisten and s voice quiver! How he used to beam on the little ildren at the church door, or pat you on the back as ou went down the aisle, or drop a little note of gracious mpathy if you were absent through trouble! Poor and ch were alike to him; nor did he grudge to spend himself r either. . . . Aye, and . . . his prayers,—those n minutes in the vestry on Sunday mornings when he ould plead for blessing on this place and on you all. People ho heard Mr. Matheson on the platform only never new that he was eloquent. It was in prayer, wrestling ith God, that his tongue was loosed—the fountains of a reat deep were broken up, and you were swept away as y a flood of earnest, lofty intercession.[1]

The following letter to Rev. J. D. Burns, the first

HEATHLANDS, HAMPSTEAD.

round, if it please God to bring her safe to Europe. You may thus see him in a way and at a place little expected.

The Presbytery was very kind and unanimously cordial. Your letter was read, and as we were all there I made a short statement, claiming their sympathy with us as a congregation, and asking their counsel as to the steps which we ought to pursue in the circumstances. . . . Dr. Hamilton spoke, full of tender sympathy for you, and expressing—what I can scarcely repeat to yourself—the admiration universally entertained by the brethren of the Presbytery for you, and much that was very soothing to our feelings. The Presbytery joined in devotion, commending you and your family and the congregation very warmly to the Covenant God. Never was more tender interest shown by a large meeting of the Court, and we came away feeling that our way was plain. . . . The very last thought in my mind when John Matheson was here in autumn was that there could ever be a connection between us other than that of warm friendship. But it *may be* that God sent him here, and gave him such acceptance among us, that He might provide us with one to go in and out and labour among us while you are laid aside, and to take the lion's share of the work when, in God's goodness, you are brought back. I have necessarily written very hurriedly, and hope I have said nothing that might have been left unsaid, while I am sure much is omitted if the letter were to be any index of the amount of tender affection towards yourself, and deep esteem and love for you as their minister, in which no one can ever supersede you, cherished universally by the office-bearers and people.

We cannot and do not intend to move in this matter

vour cordial co-operation, although we may see it
o endeavour to smooth the way for it as soon as

To MRS. J. D. BURNS

LONDON *November 21st* 1864

much we feel for you with the affecting prospect
r. Siordet's report has placed before you!—indeed,
xcited the most tender sympathy on the part of
ected with the congregation. For your dear hus-
can only pray that he may be kept in great peace,
bled to roll over every burden on his Lord. We ask
le restoration yet, if it be His will; but more es-
that he may be sustained in this time of sore
s, resting on the arm of his Saviour. The office-
met last night for special prayer on his behalf, and
f of you all, and I trust you will be supported

intense satisfaction in having done us all this kindness, which no riches could ever purchase."

I went to my hotel after staying an hour and took a sleep, and returned to the house at 4 a.m. on Sunday morning; and I never left him for nineteen hours, till he breathed his last at 11 p.m. It was a privilege very precious to be permitted to minister to his comfort—and he greatly needed it. The mind remained perfectly clear to the last, and during the entire time that I was with him it was very sweet to see the meekness, the trust in God, the weanedness from things seen, and the blessed hopes dwelt upon. He was never for a moment impatient, and always so sweetly acknowledged the little acts done for him. And when too weak to speak more than a word or two, it was always some trustful expression, or in response to some precious portion of God's word repeated to him. In great suffering he continued to give utterance to short sentences, as the expression of his heart's feeling: "I know that my Redeemer liveth"; "My heart and my flesh faileth, but . . . for ever," and many others. We all felt how full the heart was: tap it at any point with the Word of God —an immediate response. When very nearly over I said, "Sown in weakness, raised in power." He nodded and said, "Go on," only satisfied when I finished that beautiful passage. He sent the most affectionate remembrance to every member of Session, and it was no word of commonplace; special words also to the Sabbath scholars and the Reformatory girls, Miss Nicoll and the Committee, Dr. Hamilton and the members of Presbytery. At 11 o'clock on the night of Sunday, November 27th, he breathed his last. No one could be found to perform the last offices, so I did them myself.

emains were brought to England, and were
d in the cemetery at Highgate, a large con-
f mourners attending the service—which was
Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hampstead—
lowing the bier to its final resting-place.
uld be added that this saintly minister was a
exquisite taste, to whom we are indebted for
f our most beautiful hymns. Some of his
were published in a volume entitled, *The*
of Prophecy, and others appeared at the end
biography.

second minister of Trinity Presbyterian
, Hampstead, was the Rev. John Matheson,
ned in one of the letters above. He was
as colleague and successor to Mr. Burns, and
on after became sole minister. He faithfully

In connection with Home Mission work—in the early days of the Church—he referred to his interest in Somers Town on the occasion of his laying the foundation-stone of the Presbyterian Church there. In the course of his address on that occasion he said:—

I do not doubt that I owe this honour to the fact that I was associated with the earliest workers in the Somers Town Mission, almost from the very beginning of the enterprise, thirty-eight years ago. It would be grateful to my feelings to recall those early days and the loving Christian fellowship with dear and honoured brethren in Regent Square, to which I owe so very much. Mr. Sharer has, however, given so full a statement of the growth and progress of the work that it would be merely going over the same ground were I to dwell upon it. As in so many other things, I was but a hewer of wood and a drawer of water, working on committees of various kinds; but I served for some time as a Sabbath School Visitor, hunting out the children, and trying to get the adults to attend services provided for them, and was treasurer of the Building Fund of the Institute in Middlesex Street, so lately cleared away. Need I say that there are happy memories connected with Middlesex Street? Many of the choicest of our young people, who had given their hearts to the Lord, gave their time and strength to the various Christianising activities which were plied in season and out of season among a very needy and a closely packed population. I am persuaded there were many souls born there.

There was another sphere of Home Mission work

don which interested Mr. Matheson much for
er of years. In the year 1869 an opportunity
d for the purchase of a place of worship in
nediate vicinity of Drury Lane. "It appeared
r," said Mr. Matheson, "an opening of a
able kind to the very heart of a population in
pest need of the Gospel, and it was resolved,
ndence on the Divine blessing, to enter on the
Mr. Whitmore was removed from Millwall
came the missionary in charge, and eventually
nister of the congregation formed there, and
Whitfield Presbyterian Church. Ten years
a meeting held there, Mr. Matheson testified
good work done. In his address that day he

of the best workers whom Mr. Whitmore has

This public-house was bought by Mr. Matheson with the intention of making it a centre for Medical Mission work in London, a training school for medical missionaries to work in connection with congregations at home, or to go to the foreign field. This large and important scheme was never realised.

For fifteen years the Kentish Town Presbyterian Church was represented by Mr. Matheson in Presbytery and Synod, and he took a deep interest in its welfare and progress.

In his own narrative he tells of his early efforts in connection with Church extension, etc.

I all along took an active part in the business of the Church—in Synod, Presbytery, and Session. When I came to London there were only six congregations connected with the Presbytery of London, and four United Presbyterian churches. There are now over eighty [1891]. This represents a vast amount of hard work and sacrifices, in all which I took a full share.

In the earlier and what may be termed the formative period of our Church, prior to the union with the United Presbyterians, my services were very often in requisition to visit new congregations at a distance—Brighton, Southampton, Torquay, Plymouth, Cheltenham, Windsor, Croydon, Camberwell, Norwich, etc., etc.—holding meetings, settling difficulties, and assisting at the dispensation of the Communion.

I took the chief part in establishing the first newspaper connected with the Church—*The Weekly Review*.

till earlier period I frequently contributed to *The terian Messenger.*

following address, delivered on the occasion of bilee of the college in 1895, will show his con- n with it from the beginning :—

not a little affecting to me to be asked to take part interesting commemoration, and to be reminded ere are now very few members of this house, if, there is one besides myself, whose experience goes o the incidents connected with the founding of the , the jubilee of which we are now celebrating. I can venture to do is to give a few reminiscences of rkable period in the history of the Presbyterian n in England, and I only hope they may prove of t to some of those who hear me. The Synod was omposed of sixty-three congregations only. The

comparatively but a handful, a warmth of Christian activity which is still matter for profound thanksgiving.

It was in this spirit that our Home and Foreign Missions were determined upon, but the college may be said to have taken precedence. The expediency of having a college for the training of our ministry on English soil had been under consideration for two years, and at the memorable Synod of Berwick I have just referred to, not only was the establishment of a college determined upon, but the beloved James Hamilton, and his noble elder, Mr. William Hamilton, were sent to Edinburgh to offer the *primarius* professorship to Dr. James Buchanan, then the colleague of Dr. Gordon in the Free High Church. On its being reported to the Commission of Synod that Dr. Buchanan had declined the appointment, it was resolved that the post should be offered to Dr. William Cunningham. This was done, and with the same result. In the meantime the classes were commenced in October of the same year. The Rev. Hugh Campbell of Manchester, the Rev. Peter Lorimer of River Terrace, Islington, and the Rev. James Hamilton were appointed to give their services *ad interim* to the training and oversight of the students. The last-named was to give lectures on Pastoral Theology.

It was about this time that I had the honour of seeing Dr. Thomas Chalmers. He asked me what was being done about the college, warmly approved of its being established, indeed considered it quite essential, and only begged that James Hamilton might be spared.

The strong view of Dr. Chalmers about the college remained an inspiration with me, and I do not hesitate to say was not without its value at moments, which, in the earlier years, recurred not infrequently, when a feeling

espondency led to definite proposals for abandon-
t.

is not out of place to refer to an event which gave
encouragement to the struggling Church, and that
he well-known visit of Dr. Merle D'Aubigné, in 1845.
n admirer of his History, having previously visited
t his home in Geneva, I was present at his reception
e London Coffee House, when he addressed to us
s of great cheer and encouragement.

ll it was the day of small things. The college classes
obled in a few rooms hired at Exeter Hall.

though, as you are aware, I was more directly respon-
for the Foreign Missions, and no appointment was
made to the staff of the Missions that did not pass
gh my hands, I have always reflected with pleasure on
art I was enabled to take in regard to the college. On
leath of Professor Campbell, it was on my initiative

at Newcastle-on-Tyne, the subject was brought up of the proposed removal of the college to Cambridge, Mr. Matheson spoke very earnestly in favour of the amendment, which was against removal; and when, by a majority of thirteen in a full house, the Synod voted *for* removal, he craved leave, which was granted, to enter his dissent, in his own name and in that of as many as might adhere to him. At the evening sederunt, however, by permission of the Synod, he made a statement in regard to the finding arrived at in the afternoon with reference to the proposed removal. He stated that he had entered his dissent, not with the view of continuing opposition, but in order to retain for the moment any rights of the minority. On the part of many brethren who had joined in the dissent by appending their names, he wished to say that, while the Synod had probably no course but to give effect to the decision of the majority, the minority did not intend to take any action whatever in the way of opposition.

This generous action produced a profound impression on the Synod. It was quite characteristic of the man. He afterwards told the Principal that he intended to subscribe to Westminster College.

A friend who was present writes:—

> To some of us the most graceful act of a gracious life was witnessed on that historic night when he gave in his adhesion to the new order of things.

Among Mr. Matheson's many friends in the

rch was Mr. Robert Barbour, of Bolesworth, ner of Mr. George Barbour, of Bonskeid and burgh. He was a leading office-bearer of the rch for many years, and most munificent towards college and Home Mission work. During his ime Mr. Matheson raised a fund to which many bers of Synod contributed, for the purpose of ng a portrait of Mr. Barbour for the Church, to laced in the college hall; but he never could eed in getting Mr. Barbour to sit for the picture. rever, after Mr. Barbour's death, he succeeded in ng a picture painted from a photograph, which hangs in the college and helps to perpetuate e generations following the memory of his very nguished career as an elder of the Church.

e here quote once more from his own narra-

who wrote to me the characteristic letter which I transcribe here as a specimen of many affectionate epistles from that beloved and honoured friend:—

"My dear Mr. Matheson,—

"Your letter filled my eyes with tears, and my heart with gratitude to the Father of mercies, and earnestly do I pray that He who has given you this love to Himself and His cause may enrich with every temporal and spiritual blessing more and more you and yours

"Yesterday I was seeing off by the 2.45 train Mr. and Mrs. Barbour, when your brother and Mrs. Matheson turned up in time to fill the carriage nicely. It was from them that I first heard of your illness, and very sorry I was. Mr. Baxter is also ill, and obliged to go out of town. Still, I think we shall have a good meeting; and if so, with such a start as you have given, it is sure to be successful. My own stipend was this week raised to £700, and all these good things coming together I feel almost too much, and have enough to do to keep sober-minded. It is a great thing to have the power to place a good object in safety. As regards our central fund, I feel since I got your note that it cannot now fail. I am sorry that you cannot be with us to give the fortification which your presence always is, and to be made conscious of the regard and attachment which you have gathered to yourself amongst all our people. But by that time I hope you will be so much better as to be enjoying the pleasures of convalescence. Meanwhile, in a way which words cannot express, believe me,

"Gratefully and affectionately yours,

"James Hamilton."

After the return of David Maclagan to Edinburgh we

a constant correspondence, and there was nothing
bore upon the interests of the Free Church or our
hich did not form the subject of an exchange of
He was in the closest relations with Drs. Buch-
Candlish, and Rainy, and enjoyed their confidence,
I was also at the centre here, so that our corre-
nce often had a public value, besides being always
t pleasure to us both. He wrote the delightful
r of Thomas Cleghorn, with whom he had long been
e. I deeply mourned his premature death, and
nissed him sorely.

minister of the family in my childhood was Dr.
Grey, of St. Mary's, a great favourite of my mother.
s one of the first Evangelical preachers among the
rs of Edinburgh, and we all owe him much. I
e great pleasure of being one of the deputation
ur Church to the General Assembly the year of his
[redacted]

the tunes to all the psalms. The volume, which was called *Psalms and Hymns for Divine Worship*, was a great success, and was adopted by the entire Church, and by many of the churches in the colonies. After nearly twenty years there arose a demand for some amendments and additions, and at the request of Mr. Watson, who was then, as it turned out, on his deathbed, Dr. Dykes and I undertook to prepare a supplement, in which we included many of the most beautiful hymns in the language. It was printed, and was presented to the Synod at Newcastle in 1881. But the majority of the Synod were bent upon a more radical change, and under the auspices chiefly of the Rev. Rigby Murray, of Manchester, a large committee was appointed to prepare a new hymn-book. This resulted in the volume of *Church Praise* which was adopted by the Synod of 1883, and was authorized to be used in our churches. I accepted membership of the committee, and was appointed convener of the sub-committee on music. I attended diligently all the meetings of this sub-committee for about half the period occupied in preparation, until circumstances made it necessary for me to withdraw from some of my work, and I ceased attendance, my place being taken by the sub-convener, Mr. Croil Falconer. The book has been a great success, and, like its predecessor, was at once adopted by most of the colonial churches.

It is thought that the following address on Congregational Praise will suitably follow the account of his work in connection with the hymn-books. The subject was one full of interest to him. His friend Colin Brown sent him some of these notes:—

I have been asked by the session to speak on the sub-

f Congregational *Praise*. It is one that has inter-
me for a great many years. My wife does not approve
y giving the date at which I first began to take a
cal interest in psalmody, but it was before I came to
on, and that was not yesterday; and although I make
etension to musical knowledge, still less to musical
neither of these things is essentially necessary to
a lover of that grave, sweet melody which is the apt
ption of what congregational singing ought to be.
ish I could interest you in the service of praise. Will
y to remember that it was practised by our Lord and
isciples? "And when they had sung an hymn they
out to the Mount of Olives."
was also practised by the early Christians, and it was
ntil priestcraft began to grow that praise ceased to
pular in the Christian Church.
u all know that the first dawn of the Reformation

Reformers found a shelter; they flocked there—among them John Calvin, Miles Coverdale, and two Wedderburns from Scotland.

Calvin was great at singing and impressed all these men who sat at his feet very deeply with the effects of it, and it was these men, Coverdale for England, and the Wedderburns for Scotland, that were the means of introducing the practice of singing psalms and hymns to fine, grand tunes, many of which, called by us our *old* tunes, are still in use among ourselves.

I will read to you part of a preface which Calvin wrote to the psalter he published in 1543:—

"Prayer is of two kinds, that spoken and that sung. Both of these belong to public and to private worship. It is the special privilege of God's people that they have songs of praise; such songs no one can sing unless God has first put it into their hearts to do so. It was a grand masterpiece of the devil to deprive God's people of this privilege by having the psalms confined to an unknown (the Latin) tongue. God Himself had given the words that all people might praise Him, and these psalms were now translated into French that the people could use them intelligently, for (he adds) any one singing them without the understanding serves God no more than does the nightingale or the jay in the forests." He then goes on to say that such words should not be sung to unworthy music, but that suitable music should be got, music *simple*, *melodious*, *grand*, and worthy to be heard in singing God's praise.

His completed psalter with music appeared in 1560 or 1561. Such being the history, we find:—

1. The singing of psalms and hymns is a distinguishing characteristic of *a living Christian Church.*

Singing them, not having them sung by others.

I am bound to say that the weight of evidence is
nst the existence of instruments in pure churches if
g and in earnest.

OTE.—The Rev. Mr. Havergal, Canon of Worcester,
of the principal musical authorities in England, says
"there can be no worse sign of a congregation than that
ould need an instrument to help the people in their
e."

Martin Luther, John Calvin, and John Knox gave
to his own countrymen the psalms in their own
ue. *Calvin* very specially deserves the credit of this.
devoted fourteen years of his life to psalmody.

These three great men all acknowledge that praise
e highest form of Christian worship, and we have to
k them for this privilege handed down to us.

r. Matheson gave his hearty support to the

Free was to raise from the people £100,000 per annum, as the minimum amount required for the support of the ministry throughout the whole of Scotland. There were very few of those most interested who could believe in such a wonderful provision, and the prospect for the ousted ministers and their families looked dark indeed.

But Dr. Chalmers was confident. "The arithmetic," he said, "on which under God I found the confidence I feel is soon told. It is not because I count on a multitude of great things. These may be either more frequent or more numerous than I shall attempt to specify, but I do count on a multitude of small things. It is not on the strength of large sums that I proceed; it is on the strength and *accumulation of littles.*"

These are memorable words, and we know that the Sustentation Fund in the Free Church of Scotland, thus founded, has succeeded beyond all expectations, and is a model for imitation in other parts of the world. When the disestablishment of the Irish Church took place, I circulated, in Ireland, many thousand copies of a pamphlet by the late Dr. Buchanan on the Finance of the Free Church, in the hope that it might assist in some degree in guiding the counsels of the disendowed Church.

It was in 1872 that the Presbyterian Church in England, some years before the union with the United Presbyterian Church, founded the Sustentation Fund, which is the rule of this Church's finance to-day. It is designed to raise a central fund, out of which all the ministers of the Church receive an equal dividend, in quarterly payments remitted to them regularly from the central office in London. The equal dividend which has been paid to our ministers for a number of years past is £200 per annum. There are a

ceptions for special reasons, some I mean who get
ut they only prove the rule. Many have manses in
on.

ay say that one of the great principles of Presby-
sm is that the strong support the weak. "Look not
man on his own things, but every man also on the
of others."

an example of how it works, I may mention that
the foundation of this general Sustentation Fund a
r of our ministers, especially in Northumberland and
erland, where we have congregations two centuries
ere in receipt of very small salaries, and were very
notwithstanding help from the supplemental fund of
ome Mission. The salaries were small, and, owing
poverty of the people, they were often irregularly
In the Presbytery of Berwick, where we then had
hurches, there was one stipend as low as £79, and

When we speak of the equal dividend of £200 a year, it is of course open to congregations, besides sending up their contributions to the central fund, to supplement their own minister's stipend, and many of our town congregations nobly provide their ministers with salaries which may be considered reasonably adequate. We do not, however, think it fair or just that large supplements should thus be given by congregations to their own ministers, if at the same time the general central fund is put off with but a small sum of what is called *aid*. The Synod's Committee seeks by wise and kindly dealing to rectify any abuses that may arise.

In the spring of 1876 Mr. Matheson was present on two glad occasions of Church union. First in the Free Assembly Hall in Edinburgh, when the Reformed Presbyterians marched in and joined themselves to the Free Church. Mr. Matheson was there as a deputy from his own Church, and he had the honour on that occasion of leading the 100th Psalm when the Cameronians arrived, the regular precentor not being present at that hour. This was on the 25th of May. On the 13th of June he was present in Liverpool when the union was consummated between the Presbyterian Church in England and the congregations of the United Presbyterian Church south of the Tweed. He addressed the house on the subject of a Thanksgiving Fund, which it was proposed to raise at that time. A part of his address follows :—

HUGH M. MATHESON

derator, I share to the full in those feelings of
cation and thankfulness which fill every heart in
sembly at the event of this day. At the same time
eel very solemnly the responsibility which rests upon
he happy circumstances in which we are now placed
providence of God.

surely because the Lord has a work for us to do in
nd that He is so greatly blessing us. And who can
that only in so far as we set ourselves earnestly and
liberal hand to do that work shall we enjoy His
us smile and benediction? . . .

it was a touching, it was a thrilling sight in Edin-
the other day to see the blue flag floating high
y side with the Union Jack, and seeming to bear
ver the grand city the motto, "For Christ's crown
ovenant." I feel, sir, that it will be our joy to keep
t banner. But is there not another which we ought

testimony, and added, "Friends coming from the other end of the world after a long interval of years are constantly bearing witness to the wonderful preservation in which they find me, which they cannot comprehend. There is not the slightest doubt it is attributable to total abstinence."

It is thought by some that if they take a very little wine they show a better example than if they abstain. No one could have taken less than Mr. Matheson did, and yet his example was certainly beneficial to many after he gave up that little, and one and another came to him and said, "Mr. Matheson, I am adopting your plan."

He helped the cause in various ways—speaking for the Hampstead Gospel Temperance Society, of which he was President for years; acting as Treasurer for the Young Abstainers' Union, and as President of the Presbyterian Total Abstinence Society. He also encouraged the friends of temperance in the Highlands, and was one of the founders of a café in Dingwall, which has been a most valuable institution in that town.

The following address gives the strength of his convictions on the subject. It was delivered in Regent Square Church, 16th December, 1890, to ministers and office-bearers of the Presbyterian Church.

I count it a very great honour to be invited to preside at the first meeting on behalf of the *forward* temperance movement of our Presbyterian Church.

I am thankful to stand here as a total abstainer, and I

nothing but good to say of the practice in every re-
I at least can testify that bodily health is very
edly better. I am a stronger man, and can do more
etter work as an abstainer than before.

ish to say at the outset that I do not condemn the
alcoholic liquor as in itself sinful. I do not judge
. But I unhesitatingly advocate *total abstinence* as
etter way, and as being loudly called for on the part
ristian men and women, on the ground of *Christian*
ency, and as an *example* in the present state of the
y around us. The deplorable consequences of strong
cannot be exaggerated. How very many are led
ross sin by indulging in it! Don't make any mistake
rget that intemperance is sin. In the interest of the
able victims, and of all who are exposed to the temp-
, surely we ought to do our very utmost to discourage
and to minimise the traffic. To allege that strong
is good for health is a perfect delusion and a great

denial comes in, and leads me to say, "If drink make my brother to offend, I will take no drink so long as the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend."

None of us can ever know how far the influence of our example may reach. Dear brethren, we may rest well assured that whatever we do *for Christ's sake* will not be empty of results. To have a life-long influence for good upon *my children*, upon my dependants, upon friends and neighbours with whom I associate, is a privilege and a comfort of priceless value.

And to put in competition with such a sacred privilege little more than this, "I take it because I like it," is not wise, to say the least of it. Is it worthy of the profession we make, or the high calling by which we are called?

This drink question is forced upon our attention more and more every year. The drink bill of the United Kingdom is simply enormous: 130 millions of pounds sterling (1890) are consumed every year in strong drink. And it cannot be denied that the social condition of the great bulk of our population in England, specially in the large cities and towns, is deplorably affected by the drinking habits which have so long prevailed. The sufferings of thousands of families from the curse of drink are simply dreadful.

The Church to which we belong, in common with other Christian communities, is met face to face in its efforts for various classes of the people with this greatest of all hindrances to successful working. And one of the very first lessons that is learnt by the worker is just this, that if he is to accomplish his purpose, if he is to reach the people's hearts, to effect any transformation in their homes, and to see them setting out on the pilgrimage journey to the

it will not be enough that he deplore the evils of
perance, but he must set himself, with God's help,
ith all the earnestness of which he is capable, to
them entirely from the use of intoxicants, so liable
abused, and the abuse of which is so ruinous to both
nd body.

want to help all our workers, and to create a public
n in the Church which will go far to diminish this
hindrance in the way of the Gospel.

will not be without interest that one of the earliest
ations of value written in favour of temperance in
nd was from the pen of Dr. Hamilton of Strath-
the father of our beloved James Hamilton. And
ay believe it is of interest to me that the first
lent of the Free Church Society was the honoured
er of my childhood, Dr. Henry Grey.

the Presbyterian Church, desiring to offer him their congratulations, arranged for a meeting to be held in the college, Queen's Square House, on October 8, after the opening lecture for the session. At this meeting an address was presented to him by the two London Presbyteries, read by Principal Dykes, and his portrait, painted by Mr. J. Coutts Michie, was unveiled by Sir George Bruce, and presented to the college to commemorate his long service. It now hangs beside that of Dr. James Hamilton, his friend and predecessor in the convenership of the Foreign Missions Committee.

The meeting was very largely attended, the college hall being packed. The Hampstead congregation in particular was well represented. The warmest and most affectionate testimonies were given by every speaker at the meeting. Mr. Matheson found it difficult to command his voice in replying. It touched him very deeply to have so many kind things said. At the end of the meeting Dr. Thornton read a translation of a letter sent to "His Excellency the Elder," from the Presbytery of Swatow. This address will be found on another page. Its quaint Eastern language made a great impression.

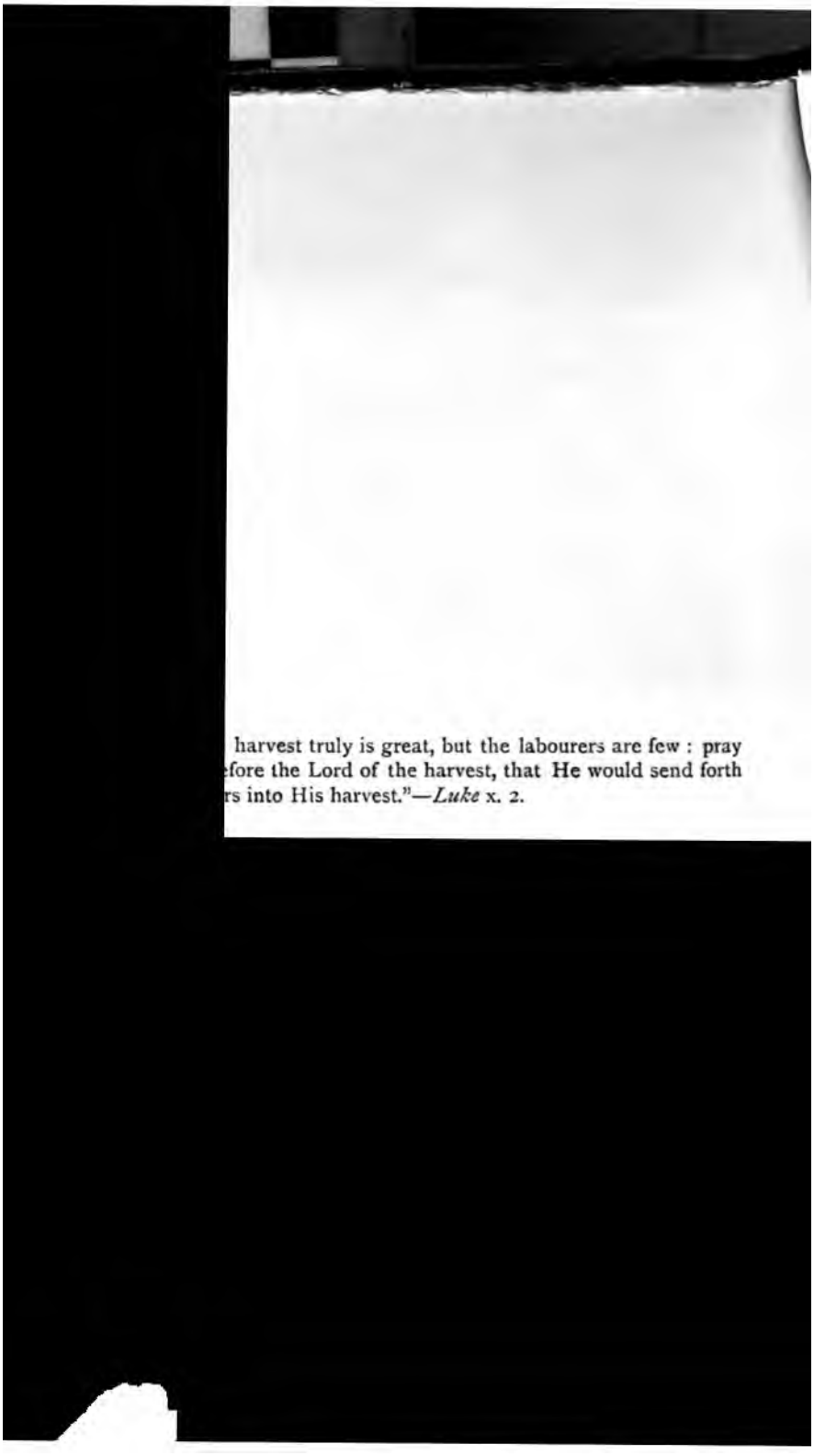
Mr. Matheson received many letters of congratulation from friends at this time: from the Swatow Mission Council, the Amoy Mission Council, the Formosa missionaries, and many old friends and fellow-workers in this country.

A few weeks after the college meeting, the Hamp-

congregation presented an address, largely
by the members, testifying to their love and
ciation of all he had been to them.
ese addresses will be found in an Appendix at
nd of this book.

CHAPTER V

The Mission in China



harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few : pray
efore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth
rs into His harvest."—*Luke* x. 2.

CHAPTER V

The Mission in China [1]

OF all the religious and philanthropic works in which Mr. Matheson was interested, the one that to himself was most important and by which he was best known to his own Church and to the Christian public generally was the China mission. From its first beginning in 1847 to the time of his death, a period of more than fifty years, he was officially connected with its management, first as treasurer, and then, from 1868 on to the close, as convener of committee. During all these years he served the Church and the mission with unflagging devotion, winning from the first and holding to the end the complete trust and love of the Church at home, and of the missionaries, who, one and all, were proud to call him their chief.

During so long a period of service there were, of course, many vicissitudes in the history of the mission. Difficulties, both financial and administrative,

[1] We are indebted to Rev. J. C. Gibson, D.D., of Swatow, and Rev. Thomas Barclay, M.A., of Formosa, for their kindness in compiling the greater part of this chapter.

e from time to time. New opportunities called new developments and fresh departments of t. Times of war or disturbance caused many ous hours. The continuous growth of the mis- and of the native churches founded by it—a th altogether beyond the most sanguine hopes s founders—added every year to the burden of nsibility and anxiety resting upon the Con- r. But there were no embittered discussions no lasting cleavages of opinion. In a work e chief features were steady growth and har- ious development there are happily few striking ents or dramatic events to furnish material for narrator of the story of the chief actor in it. impossible to write with any fulness the history Ir. Matheson's convenership, but some of its cts may be indicated and some of its guiding

(then Mr.) Hamilton and others, he put in writing some of the facts gathered and the views formed during the visit, bearing upon the plan for the proposed mission to the heathen.[1] On his own mind the visit seems to have left an indelible impression, and the experience gained was of immense advantage to him in his future work in this connection. With fresh, eager eye and with a singularly sensitive and kindly heart, he had seen the multitudinous life of India and China, which can hardly fail to touch the most careless. Native life in its marvellous variety as in India, or in its still more impressive uniformity as in China, with the continual suggestion of a far-drawn past underlying all, and throwing over its most vivid scenes the pathos of the fleetingness of life, makes a strangely keen appeal to any sympathetic mind who looks upon it in the spirit of Christianity.

Mr. Matheson was very much impressed with India as a mission field, and with the missionary institutions at work there. "These institutions," he writes, "were chiefly educational, at least such always interested me most, the opportunity being seized for instilling into the minds of the young *truth*, which, when offered in later life, one cannot doubt has to contend with stronger prejudices and a more confirmed apathy. . . . I would like to add, too, that India is an open field for missionary labour. Every missionary that comes from it tells the same

[1] See chapter ii., page 73.

e." China, on the other hand, he found "had
y been two or three years opened, in an ex-
mely limited sense, at five ports, and missionaries
uld only travel to such a distance from the port
would admit of their returning well within the
enty-four hours. . . . Of the missionaries,
nerican and London [Missionary Society], there is
oodly staff at each of the ports, except Fuchaufu."
s judgment, therefore, was against adopting China
the mission field of the Church. And the com-
ttee, influenced by his views and by the great
ficulty they had experienced in finding a suitable
ssionary, drew up a report recommending that
ina should be abandoned, and that a mission
uld be begun in Central India instead.
It was with considerable reluctance that the com-

Sunderland and found to his joy that the mind of the Synod was to go forward. His offer of service was thankfully accepted by the Church. On the following day he was ordained, and on the 9th of June he sailed for China.

It is needless to say how much Mr. Matheson rejoiced at the result thus attained, and how pleased he was with the unexpected turn of affairs, whereby, in spite of his own unfavourable report, China had been approved of as the Church's mission field. He was, indeed, as he could scarcely fail to be, very much impressed with the whole series of occurrences connected with the founding of the mission. Still more impressive to him were the character and the history of the man whom God had sent to be the Church's first missionary. And he often referred to these as full of significance to the Church, as indicating the spirit in which for all time her missionary work should be conducted.

Speaking at Exeter Hall, in 1893, he said :—

> Missions are the fruit of revival, and if I refer for a single moment to the origin of our China mission, and connect it with a great spiritual awakening, it is because there are now comparatively few remaining who were cognisant of the incidents of that remarkable time.
>
> In a very few days there will be celebrated the jubilee of the Free Church of Scotland, the fiftieth General Assembly since the great Disruption of 1843. For years preceding that event there was a wonderful spiritual fire that burned in the hearts of a usually staid and sober-

nded people, and which led up to the Disruption, and those noble and unexampled deeds of heroism and f-sacrifice which are about to be commemorated in otland.

The movement was eagerly watched by us on this e the border, and it cannot be doubted that the ne earnest spirit was to a large extent shared by the esbyterian Church in England. It was in the warm rit of that Disruption time that our China mission was ginated, and was sent on its way with William Burns its first missionary. This was the man of all others om God had raised up to awaken to spiritual life ltitudes in his native land. And there was thus a very se connection between the revivals of Kilsyth and ndee and our China mission. Those who have known work best and longest, and I am one of them, have ver ceased to connect the spiritual blessings that have

a very serious one, and it is difficult for me to describe the joy and praise which filled the hearts of Dr. Hamilton, Mr. Nisbet and others, when Mr. Burns appeared at the Sunderland Synod anxious to go to China, at a time when that meant literally taking his life in his hands. It is not possible to exaggerate what it meant to our infant mission to receive so manifestly from God's hand a man like that, living very near to God, absolutely consecrated, spirit and soul and body, to His service, and filled with a burning love for souls. The high standard of his piety, his constant use of the Bible, his reverence for the Lord's day, his abounding in prayer—these things marked him out as a man of God, and I do not hesitate to say that the blessed influence of Mr. Burns' character and life left its stamp not only upon those who became his colleagues, but also upon the native churches of the present day, and upon many Christian workers with whom he came into contact.

The part of China selected as the mission field of the Church lies in the south-east of that country, in the Provinces of Fokien and Canton. After four years' work in Hongkong, Mr. Burns removed to Amoy, a treaty-port some distance up the coast. In 1858, leaving his colleagues there, he went to the neighbouring treaty-port of Swatow and established another centre there. In 1865 Dr. Maxwell began work in the Island of Formosa, lying opposite Amoy, and peopled by immigrants from that neighbourhood. In 1879 a mission settlement was made among the Hakkas, inland from Swatow. In 1881 work was

begun at Singapore among the Chinese there, who for the most part come from the districts round Amoy and Swatow. These various forward movements were all along the line of natural growth and expansion, each step in advance being suggested and led up to by what preceded, in accordance with the principle which has guided the management of the mission through all its history. The result is that the Church now finds herself in possession of a singularly compact field of labour, yet one large enough to call forth all the energy she possesses, in which the different parts are mutually helpful, and the work as a whole is carried on with the least possible waste.

To some, indeed, this very feature of the work has seemed rather a drawback, as tending to impart to it a certain monotony and sameness, seeing that it is all carried on under similar conditions and according to the same methods. There is thus lost the variety of interest offered to members of a Church which carries on work in different lands and among different peoples. The wishes of such friends were to some extent met by the setting on foot of a mission at Rampore Boalia in India, of which an account will be given below. It may be doubted whether this aspect of the work ever troubled Mr. Matheson. His acquaintance with the details of the mission, and the attention with which he followed each new development, made the work to him full of fresh and absorbing interest. When proposals were made to begin work in a different quarter,

proposals backed by liberal offers of money, he did not see his way to accede, fearing lest the dissipation of effort so caused might act disastrously on the work of the mission. He recognised how differently his committee was situated from the great Missionary Societies, whose large incomes enable them to extend their operations to every quarter of the globe. In the case of a Church with comparatively limited means, it seemed to him that the best results might be looked for from concentration of effort. Judged by the issue the policy seems to have justified itself. The Church he represented is one of the smallest in Christendom, but the mission which it carries on in China is one of the largest and most important in that Empire. According to statistics submitted to the last General Conference at Shanghai, though only the seventh in point of number of missionaries, it stands fourth in respect of the number of converts and second in point of native givings.

To those who knew Mr. Matheson chiefly as "The Convener" it might have seemed that he lived solely for the China mission. But he was not one who devoted himself to foreign missions with a heated intensity born of a narrow and partial outlook on life and duty. As is seen in other chapters of this record, his sympathies were singularly broad and varied, and he lived a full and rounded life. It was not divided into sections, religious and secular. For him nothing was secular or profane. From the

ing of the briefest business note to the pre-
tion of a mission address, or sharing in a prayer
ting or in an evangelistic campaign, everything
done "as in the great Taskmaster's eye."
llarly his interests ranged equally over the fields
ome and foreign missions, and he was always
y to share in every kind of good work. Thus
intensity of his feeling towards the China
ion was not the result of a narrow or onc-
d outlook. It was the expression of well-directed
otion and deliberate concentration of purpose.
losely associated with this singleness of aim was
love with which he watched over the mission
laboured for it. He loved the work and the
kers, and love quickened memory and knowledge,
hat details as to places, persons, and incidents

disturbance occurred on the field he found time or made time to write letters of sympathy and encouragement, letters which were all the more precious proofs of thoughtfulness and regard because of the pressure of business amid which they were written.

The following letter of Mr. Matheson, written about the year 1855, may be inserted here as illustrating the relationship existing between him and the missionaries:—

I have a beautiful letter to-day from our poor, dear, suffering and solitary missionary at Amoy,[1] so grateful for my letters he was getting by every mail, though I did not think I had written so often. That is in my department. It is only now he clearly states the sad malady that for five months has threatened his life, though it has never interrupted his most faithful labours. England *must* be visited if there is to be the faintest hope of a cure, but he will not come till the return of Mr. Burns, so very precious is the work and at so critical and interesting a stage. "Ten times sooner would I die in my work in Amoy than surrounded by all the friends I have at home, many as they are and dear though they be. I trust it is in no spirit of vain boasting I say this. I have more than once had occasion to look death calmly in the face since I was left alone, as I now am, with no one to wait on me by night or day save my Chinese servants, with occasional calls from my fellow-labourers; and for your comfort as well as for the glory of God I would say

[1] Rev. James Johnston.

it, there were no terrors in that face of death. I felt no want of friends on my account, though I might have desired their presence on their own. *One Friend* is *enough* for that dark valley, and His whisper, 'Lo, I am with you,' gives a courage and a comfort to the soul which no earthly voice can impart, though the sweetest that ear hath heard, the voice of maternal love." Poor, dear fellow! may the Lord richly comfort him! It affects me deeply to receive these accounts from him. I can only pray that his life may be spared. But oh! if taken, what a consolation would such a letter as that be to his affectionate mother, who gave him up so nobly for this distant and trying field.

A characteristic principle of his convenership, in which the committee were wholly at one with him, was the generous confidence always shown towards the missionaries. They were allowed a large amount of freedom both in shaping the policy of the mission and in carrying out details. As new developments arose, they could be put before the Convener with the assurance that he would give them a sympathetic consideration. And when his approval was given, it was with no hampering limitations or conditions. The missionaries were trusted to do their best in new circumstances as they arose. They knew that their actions would always be interpreted in the most favourable sense. They worked with the assurance that no one would more sympathetically rejoice in their successes, and no one more cheerfully share in bearing their failures, than the Convener.

There was thus the completest accord between the workers on the field and the management at home.

With this fundamental principle of administration, Mr. Matheson held strongly to the rule of carefully selecting those who should be sent as missionaries. He spared no pains in securing that those appointed should have the best attainable qualifications for their work—in capacity, in education, and in character. Even when it was hard to find qualified men to meet the urgent demands of a rapidly growing mission, he would never consent to lower the standard. He firmly believed that by patient continuance in prayer the right man would be found and called of God; and he would never, by rash haste, anticipate the direction of God's providence. When men were found and accepted, he welcomed them as a gift from the Lord to His Church, and from that moment he gave them his ungrudging confidence and love. No wonder that a mission carried on in this spirit has always had a strong sense of brotherly unity. All the members of it felt drawn together by the love and trust which knit them all to the Convener.

Another feature of Mr. Matheson's administration was the frank openness of mind with which he was always prepared to meet new developments or fresh departures in the work of the mission. He was not a man who held his beliefs lightly, and while frankly liberal in his political views, he leaned to a conservative attitude in theology and ecclesi-

ical action. But this never narrowed his sym-
hies, nor prevented his recognising calls for new
orts arising out of changes of time and circum-
nce. In view of the distinctively evangelistic
aracter assumed by the work of the English
esbyterian mission, it is curious now to recall
fact that the first missionaries were sent out
h the idea of founding an educational mission,
newhat after the model devised by Dr. Duff in
great work in India, and that even William
rns began his work for China by teaching English
a class of Chinese boys. But when this method
s ere long laid aside, and the work of the mission
veloped along evangelistic lines, no one accepted
s result more unreservedly than Mr. Matheson.
rejoiced greatly in the discovery—an unexpected

to multiply that even the giving of a high-class English education to non-Christian Chinese students might ere long be called for by the new movements stirring in the Chinese mind, Mr. Matheson's sympathies were still broad enough to give these tendencies a hospitable welcome. He was prepared to foster, with all the weight of his long experience, movements which to a more superficial observer might seem little in harmony with the accepted traditions of the Mission.

The combination in Mr. Matheson's mind of intense feeling towards the China mission with a deep and real interest in so many other forms of Christian work was made possible to him because of the clear and decided views which he held, and to which he gave frequent expression, of the "reflex influence" of mission work. His long experience made clear to him that in carrying on missionary work abroad the Church not only brings life and deliverance to the heathen nations, but receives herself in return blessings untold, in increased spiritual life, in fuller understanding of the will of God, and in more true and perfect fellowship with her ascended Lord. He had no sympathy with the fear felt by some that by an excess of mission zeal the Church might so dissipate her energies as to hinder and hamper her work at home. He believed profoundly, and gave good reasons for his belief, that the more earnestly the Church gives herself to the work among the heathen, so much the more will she be fitted

l strengthened for carrying on the work given her do at home. "We get from foreign missions," often said, "immensely more than we give. The urch always thrives on an expansive policy, and always weak on a policy of 'home first.'"

end your noblest men, your men of most commanding nt and influence, to such a field as China, to such a derful people as we have tried to describe; what will the issue be in the hands of the great and mighty l?

nd if any one supposes we should suffer, that is not l's way. The churches that engage with most heart most self-sacrifice in this work are those that receive est spiritual blessings at home in their families and all nd them. There is a reflex blessing that is as sure as promises of God. "He that watereth shall be watered himself."

the earliest missionary of the Church, had by his extraordinary labours and success as an evangelist, his literary gifts, and his singular holiness of life, acquired so large a place in the affections and confidence of the leading members of the Church at home that his counsel was listened to with profound respect. When Mr. Burns, therefore, urged the appointment of a medical man, Dr. Young, as his first colleague, he indicated his own conception of the value of medical mission work, and cleared the way at once for its future development.

Then, again, the Church having concentrated its mission interest on China, there naturally entered into the counsels of its leaders in the Foreign Missions Committee the consideration of those plans which were most likely, with God's blessing, to win success. And it was not long before they were satisfied that the peculiar conditions of society in China, its profound ignorance of medical and surgical science, coupled with a readiness on the part of its people to receive at the hands of foreigners the assistance of which they stood in need, provided an opening for presenting the Gospel under conditions which of all others were most favourable to its reception.

Mr. Matheson entered with unfailing personal interest into the medical missionary aspects of the work. He never lost sight for a moment of the great end of missions, but he was more than satisfied that in a variety of ways the medical agency was a

divinely appointed method. It fell to him as convener to have to judge of the qualifications of candidates, and his correspondence shows how with regard to the medical candidates he was always on the alert to find not only men skilled in medicine, but spiritually-minded men, who would keep above all things before them the progress of the kingdom of Christ.

The early history of the work in Formosa was that of a medical mission, and there is no one who looks back on the stirring events of that history with a profounder sense of the sympathy and unfailing kindness and help of the mission convener than does its still surviving medical pioneer. And if there were two themes on which Mr. Matheson loved to dilate with special affection, they were the long history of blessing bound up with the Swatow hospital, and the remarkable development of the mission work in the region around Chinchew associated with the labours of the hospital there.

One of Mr. Matheson's letters, written only a week or two before the beginning of his fatal illness, shows how to the very last his personal interest in medical missions and missionaries remained undimmed. It concerns the application of one who has since been appointed as a medical missionary.

I cannot describe what a joy it was to see —— and talk over with him the great purpose of his life. . . . It is through tears of grateful praise to our loving Father that I pen these lines to assure you how deeply touched I have been by the dedication of distinguished talents, of

faithful and conscientious and laborious studies, along with hearty devotion to the service of Christ, which your dear son has made. . . . My own connection with this work is nearing its natural close, but nothing could more clearly promise to me than does this incident that the Lord means to carry on the work, and to raise up for it such workers as He will own and bless.

Whilst the missionary efforts of the Church have from the beginning been mainly concentrated on China, there have always been many amongst its members who have taken a warm interest in India, and who have urged the desirability of adopting it also as a mission field. Accordingly in the year 1862 a rural mission was begun at Rampore Boalia, in the presidency of Bengal, supported principally by private friends of the Church, Mr. Donald Matheson and others. For many years the management also of the mission was in their hands; and it was only at a later period, when circumstances had somewhat altered, that the Foreign Missions Committee was asked to take it over. From this time, of course, the relations of the Convener to this mission became more close. He felt, however, that in view of the continued prosperity and growing demands of the China mission, there was always the danger that the Indian mission would fail to secure that measure of sympathy and liberality which was essential to its proper development. In addition to this, the difficulties arising from the isolation of the mission were felt to be so injurious that a few months before Mr.

theson's death it was resolved to endeavour to ct a transfer of the work to one of the great ssionary societies in India. When the matter ne before the Synod, however, it was decided to ain the mission and carry it on as before.

The Rev. Behari Lal Singh was the first mis-nary. He was one of Dr. Duff's converts, and d been employed as an evangelist in connection h the Free Church mission in Calcutta. He was ained to the work in Rampore Boalia, where he oured till his lamented death in 1874. In 1878 Donald Morison was sent out by the Foreign ssions Committee. In 1885 Mr. Matheson thus aks of the work:—

The medical missionary department is a very important , and through it Dr. Morison gets access to a large

In presenting the Foreign Missions Report at his last Synod in 1897—the jubilee year—Mr. Matheson thus referred to the work in India:—

Our Indian mission has been passing through some trials. We commend it to your prayers. The system of caste is a terrible barrier in the way of the Gospel, and we trust that, in the wonderful providence of God, one result of the sad famine and consequent sufferings through which the people are passing may be to loosen the bonds by which they are so oppressed, and to open a wide door for the entrance of the truth as it is in Jesus, that mighty and unique factor in the raising of a people from degrading superstition to peace and liberty.

The Women's Missionary Association was formed early in 1879. From the first it had the warmest support and encouragement from the Convener. The fact that the president elected was his wife made the relations between it and the Foreign Missions Committee of the closest character. The wives of the missionaries had long before that date done most helpful and fruitful work among the women and girls in China; but it was felt that women workers with no home ties could be of great service, as such had been in other missions.

The first lady to go out was Miss Ricketts, who went as an honorary worker in the autumn of 1878, under the auspices of the Foreign Missions Committee, a few months before the formation of the Women's Missionary Association. She went to

atow, and began the work of training Bible-men for that centre. Since that time about forty ssionaries have been sent out, of whom twenty-five still in active service.

At the jubilee meeting of the China mission in nderland, Mr. Matheson thus spoke of the Associa-n :—

t is delightful to be able to say that in every part of field the work of the Women's Missionary Association nost helpful, and indeed of vital importance to the pro-ss of the Gospel. We cannot speak too warmly of it, of the agents whom God has given them.

These agents at that time numbered twenty on the d, and the home organization was becoming every r more complete, and taking a firm hold on the

the difficulty. The leaders of the Free Church willingly recognised this mission as supplying the place of one of their own in such a way as to obviate the necessity of a further separate undertaking. The appointment of Mr. Burns (as was already said) greatly increased the interest felt, and drew the sympathies of many in Scotland to the newly founded mission. Accordingly in 1855 a meeting was held in Edinburgh, at which the Scottish Auxiliary of the China mission was founded in accordance with the following resolution:—

> That this meeting rejoices in the openings for preaching the Gospel in China, and approves of the steps which have been taken for sending out and supporting missionaries from Scotland to co-operate with the agents of the English Presbyterian Church.

The relationship to the mission of the auxiliary thus founded has been even closer than might be inferred from the wording of the resolution. There has been no attempt at independent action at home or on the field. Much money has been raised, and many men selected and sent out. But the money has gone to the exchequer in London; and the men sent out have fallen loyally into line as missionaries of the English Church. In this connection it will not be felt invidious to mention the name of one family, the various members of which have rendered invaluable services to the mission. Mr. George Barbour was a warm friend of the mission from the

ginning, and first as treasurer and thereafter as sident of the Auxiliary rendered it great service, which he was heartily assisted by Mrs. Barbour, sister of one of the early missionaries, the Rev. vid Sandeman. On Mr. Barbour's death, he was ceeded in the office of president by his son, the v. Robert W. Barbour, whose warm sympathy with ssion work led him to devote powers of the very hest order to the forwarding of its interests at me.[1] On his early death the post was occupied by

[1] The following minute of the Foreign Missions Committee London, written by Mr. Matheson on the death of Mr. rbour, will be read with interest, both on its own account, l as illustrating the closeness of the relationship existing ween the two committees :—

'The Committee record with profound sorrow the loss which missions of this Church have sustained by the early re-

his brother, Dr. A. H. F. Barbour, who happily is still with us. He manifested his interest in the mission, and still further qualified himself for the discharge of the duties he had undertaken, by paying a visit to the different centres of the mission field in the winter of 1891–2.

The services rendered by these and other friends in Scotland were highly appreciated by Mr. Matheson, and he took frequent opportunity of acknowledging in public the indebtedness of the Church to the efforts of the Scottish Auxiliary. In many ways it has proved itself a true helper. In addition to private benefactions the sum of about £3,000 is sent up annually to London. By its means the mission is kept before the attention of friends in Scotland and in particular of the students of the Divinity Halls, as being not altogether an outside mission, but in some sense a mission of their own. Mr. Matheson also valued highly the wise counsel and kind sympathy which he was always sure of receiving from those at the head of affairs, of whose advice he often gladly availed himself. Indeed, if there was any shadow of criticism of his management, it was to the effect that he tended to look too exclusively to Scotland for the supply of new workers, and to overlook sources of supply that lay nearer home.

children so early and so sorely bereaved, and pray that the choicest spiritual blessings may be the portion of every one of them. They also express deep sympathy with the beloved mother, and with the sisters and brother of the departed."

here is one matter on which the biographer of Matheson has some difficulty in speaking, not any doubt as to what his views were, but from own marked reticence on the subject. All ds of missions in China know how much evil is ght in that country by the use of opium, and an obstacle is presented thereby to the progress issionary work. With practical unanimity all ionaries condemn its use; and in all churches ndulgence in it is held to be sufficient of itself orm a bar to admission to membership. Un- ily the production and sale of this drug in sh India is a Government monopoly, producing ge revenue, drawn mainly from the opium sent China; and with a view to fostering the trade t Britain insists upon China permitting the un- ed import of the drug at a certain fixed rate of

mercial relations with China were confined altogether to other commodities. It is not difficult to see how the mistake arose. The great business house of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., especially in earlier days, had very large dealings in opium; and the similarity of the name, taken in connection with Mr. Matheson's own silence on the subject, easily gave rise to the mistake. But a mistake it is, none the less. Of his own views there can be no doubt. The following quotation from one of his public addresses will be sufficient to settle the point:—

> There is no doubt that here we have a subject for grave reflection by the Christians of England. Whatever may be thought of the views which induce the Government of China to oppose the importation of opium—in part, no doubt, political and economical—I cannot stand here to-night and avoid saying how deeply I deplore the attitude of this country in the opium question. I am compelled to take the view that we have no right because of Indian revenue to dictate to China the terms upon which she shall receive our opium. All the best authorities, men who have lived among the people, declare emphatically that the smoking of opium as practised in China is a cause of enormous evil and untold misery among its victims. It is a destructive and degrading vice.

He then quotes the account given by Dr. Legge of his interview with the Chinese ambassador Kwo Sung-tao:—

> . . . I never saw a man more surprised. He

d his chair back (about two yards), got on his feet, turn across the room, and cried out, "You say that, d at from the moral standpoint, England is better China. Then how is it that England insists on our her opium?"

1895 Mr. Matheson attained his jubilee as an -bearer in the Church, an event of much interest ose on the mission field, as well as to friends at e. An account of the celebration of this event ven in the previous chapter. By this time the of the mission was extending in all directions, Mr. Matheson felt the time had come to seek er help in the direction and management of s. At the Synod of 1896 he submitted a two- recommendation of the Foreign Missions Com- ee, in the following terms:—

conducted by honorary office-bearers and without a paid secretary.

Both proposals were agreed to, but the latter has not yet been carried into effect. The fact to which Mr. Matheson draws attention, that the work is being conducted entirely by honorary office-bearers, is a very striking one, and will be long remembered by a grateful Church, which has been so well served by her office-bearers both in the ministry and in the eldership.

The appointment of Mr. Connell as joint convener was immediately carried into effect. It was a great comfort to Mr. Matheson, and the wisdom of it has been fully justified by subsequent experience. As things turned out, it proved to be a very timely step, and enabled the affairs of the mission to be carried on without a break, when Mr. Matheson died two years later.

It has seldom happened that a man who has taken an active part in the founding of a mission has lived to see its jubilee year celebrated under his own active presidency. To Mr. Matheson this supreme pleasure was granted ; and every one felt that his continuance in active duty at the head of the mission lent an added zest to its celebration. To Mr. Matheson himself it was a great occasion. No doubt the enthusiasm with which his jubilee as an office-bearer had been celebrated two years before, and the many expressions of love and admiration of which he had

been the recipient from friends on the foreign as well as from friends at home, made a renewal ch utterances less necessary on the occasion of nission jubilee. The claims also of other Church ests made it undesirable to float any large ne for a jubilee offering, though not a few special tions from friends were received. But it was a of great interest. The Synod resolved to meet year in Sunderland, where it had held the notable ing fifty years before. It was proposed that on occasion Mr. Matheson should be appointed rator of Synod. In deference to Presbyterial the proposal was not carried out, but every elt that the highest honours the Church has r disposal would not have been too much as knowledgment of the long service he had ren-

It is the custom at the Synod that one of its regular meetings should be set apart as a missionary meeting, the moderator, of course, being in the chair. On this occasion, however, the Synod adjourned in order to meet informally to hear the missionary addresses, this step being taken expressly for the purpose of allowing Mr. Matheson to preside. It was a very interesting retrospect that he was able to make in his chairman's address ; and a few facts and figures may here be given to show what progress the mission had made in the fifty years. They are taken from the Report for the year 1897, and represent the position of the work just fifty years and a few weeks after Mr. Burns landed at Hongkong.

Including the work in India, there were by that time eleven different centres at which missionaries were resident. There were thirty-two missionaries on the staff; of these seventeen were ministerial, eleven were medical, three were teachers, and one was an evangelist. The wives of the missionaries are not included in these figures, though many of them were carrying on important Christian work. There were in full communion nearly 5,500 persons, of whom more than 700 had been received during the year. These Christians, together with a much larger number of adherents and hearers, met for worship at some 200 out-stations, ministered to by 120 preachers, most of whom had received some theological training at one or other of the four divinity halls carried on by the missionaries. There were

hospitals, at which it is estimated at least 30,000 ents are attended to every year. At the three f centres presbyteries had been organized, in ch the native ministers and elders, assisted by foreign missionaries, manage the affairs of the rch. There were fifteen ordained ministers, ported entirely by the free-will offerings of their ple. At many of the stations there were schools the education of the children of the Christians; at most of the main centres, where missionaries de, there were high schools for more advanced ning. The annual income amounted to about ,000. In addition to this, the Women's Mis- ary Association had twenty-two workers, with annual income of about £5,000.

Altogether, it was a record of work for which Mr. theson felt profoundly grateful, and which justified

By the year 1897 it was estimated that there were in China over 60,000 communicants, and the whole of the country, practically, was open to itinerancy, and even inland residence; whilst there were signs which encouraged the hope that even more rapid progress might be made in the near future.

There was one of the Chinese missions in which Mr. Matheson took special interest—the mission to Manchuria of the Irish Presbyterian Church and the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. When Mr. Burns went to Manchuria, in 1867, he was the only Protestant missionary in the whole province. As the mission work in South China seemed sufficient to occupy the whole energies of his own Church, he suggested that Manchuria would be a most suitable field for the Irish Presbyterian Church to begin work in. In accordance with his wish, Mr. Matheson wrote to the Irish Church, suggesting to them how desirable it would be to take advantage of the opening there. In accordance with this suggestion, they immediately began work in that region, sending out two missionaries, one ordained and one medical. Shortly afterwards the United Presbyterian Church began work there also. These two missions have combined to form one native Church, which of late years, and more particularly since the close of the Japanese war, has had a season of remarkable prosperity, so that at the time of the jubilee Mr. Matheson could write: "All that Mr. Burns anticipated has been fulfilled, and we are so

ed to hear of the abundant blessing now being to the Irish Church missions, which were the o respond to our appeal, and to the United yterian also."

rtly after the jubilee meetings, Mr. Matheson, g to his old friend Dr. Mackenzie, of Swatow, "For me there cannot be many more Synods." utterance seemed almost prophetic. Before er Synod came he had heard the call of the r to cease from his loved employ. He goes say: "If only we could see the Church taking e great cause with a full heart and a tender thy and a self-sacrificing spirit, we could be t to stand aside. . . . I begin to feel as mission will now take a better hold on the h; and if the mode of doing things is altered new management, it may perhaps be better

CHAPTER VI

Christian Work at Home

hosoever will be chief among you, let him be your
t."—*Matt.* xx. 27.

CHAPTER VI

Christian Work at Home

THE advancement of the kingdom of Christ, whether at home or abroad, was dear to Mr. Matheson's large heart, and in the following pages some of the interests outside of his own Church which most engaged his sympathies, and to which he gave personal help, are enumerated.

For a number of years he diligently attended a monthly meeting of secretaries of Foreign Missionary Societies, which during the winter months was held in rotation in the offices of the different Churches or Societies represented, to discuss subjects of interest common to all the missions. This he felt to be most profitable, as tending to unite in sympathy workers belonging to various communions and yet working for the same great cause, and also to promote the best plans for adjusting the different missionary spheres abroad, so as to avoid overlapping. He became a member of the "Secretaries' Association" in 1869.

When the Centenary Conference of the Protestant missions of the world was to be held in London in the summer of 1888, Mr. Matheson was chosen

man of the General Committee, and worked
ously for many months in connection with the
inary arrangements, and also during the meet-
of conference in June as far as his business
ements permitted.

July of that year the Council of the Presby-
Alliance also met in Exeter Hall, and the
ing letter tells how Mr. Matheson was asked
eside at their missionary meeting:—

To his wife

3 LOMBARD STREET *July 5th* 1888

Dykes and Dr. Blaikie told me this morning that
mmittee of Council has chosen me to preside at the
mission meeting to-morrow night, and it has been
nced, although I am not a delegate as all the other

duce myself. Afterwards, when we were staying at Elsick, I determined to go to Thurso to see Mr. Moody, and Mary accompanied me. We had the most delightful intercourse. Among other things Mr. Moody and I talked fully over London, and the best means of preparing for his coming there, should he see his way to it, which I urged him to do. He wished to circulate *The Christian* very widely over England, and I agreed to raise a fund of £2,000, which I succeeded in doing, so that *The Christian* was circulated gratuitously for three months to 30,000 clergymen and Nonconformist ministers all over England. The accounts which it gave of the remarkable work of Mr. Moody in Scotland were fitted to stimulate the desire to have him, and this in point of fact was the result.

It was remarkable that, when Mr. Moody came to this country at that time to hold evangelistic meetings, it was on the invitation of Mr. Pennefather, Mr. Bainbridge, and Mr. Bewly of Dublin, and before his arrival these men had all died. They had guaranteed all expenses of the mission, and their death left him in great embarrassment. Morgan & Scott printed a few hymns on leaflets, with the music, which sold well. Gradually, as the number of hymns printed was increased, they were made up in little volumes, and the royalty allowed to Mr. Moody by the publishers on the proceeds of all sales was so considerable that it eventually produced a good sum, sufficient to pay the expenses of the whole mission. In the prospect of beginning in London he made a clean breast of this at a large meeting of ministers and Christian workers which we got together at Freemasons' Hall. He then publicly announced that he would receive no more of this royalty, but that it would be paid to his friend Mr. Hugh Mathe-

who would apply it as he might see fit at the close
e mission.

the second visit of Messrs. Moody and Sankey to
ountry in 1882, a large committee was formed in the
spring, composed of nearly all the leading Christian
in London. I could not be there, being absent on
ess in Spain, but they unanimously and cordially
d me chairman of the committee. It took charge
anging for the whole work in England, and very
lly for the erection in London of large buildings of
ated iron and wood. This work devolved chiefly
Mr. Robert Paton and myself. We had to select the
rrange with Messrs. Croggan the plan of the build-
nd generally manage the whole business.

the amazement of the committee, who were dis-
g with Mr. Moody at a large meeting the method to
lowed in London, a plan which I prepared on the

being present at the services. It was a wonderful time, and made a very deep impression.

The whole mission cost over £20,000, and this sum was raised by special contributions. A similar arrangement about the royalty on hymn-books was made to that on the former occasion, only Messrs. Quintin Hogg and Robert Paton were associated with me this time, and shared the responsibility. We arranged in detail with Messrs. Morgan & Scott the royalties to be paid upon each edition of the book, and at the end I was able to remit to America, to trustees for the New Northfield Schools which Mr. Moody was desirous of founding, and which have since attracted so much attention, no less a sum than £10,000.

The following letters show the value he attached to sacred song in evangelistic work :—

To COLIN BROWN

HAMPSTEAD *February 11th* 1874

I have been laid up for nearly a week by a bronchial attack, and am much troubled at losing some of the meetings which are going on this week. At one of them to-morrow in St. Giles' (Mr. Whitmore's church) I was to have sung a number of Sankey's hymns, and the disappointment is, I believe, rather severe. But it has been much on my mind to ask you to give me some heads of an address showing the place and power of sacred song in evangelistic work. We have seen its effects in the Edinburgh meetings. Perhaps you have heard that I went down there for two days just to see for myself, and to try to catch something of the blessing. The impression of what I saw and heard will never be effaced. I was eager

k, but was too much moved to do so. Greatly do
ce that Glasgow is now in expectation of blessed
Go in for it as far as you possibly can. The
nity is one that may never again occur.

subsequent letter, again speaking of Sankey's
s, he says, "I am getting them translated into
sh."

To the same

HEATHLANDS HAMPSTEAD *May 21st* 1874

. We are to have open-air services on the Heath
it-Monday, and all the workers, about 200, to take
our place. Enclosed are the hymns to be sung
nout the day. You see we have adopted the sweet
songs that have been so much blessed, and this
the first time they have been very publicly used,

occupying this chair. When the invitation came to me I confess I viewed it too exclusively in one light, viz., as affording me an opportunity of showing my fraternal sympathy with Christians of another denomination, and in so far as this is concerned, in coming to me you probably came to the right address. But I cannot help fearing that my acceptance of your invitation was an act of presumption on my part, so deficient do I feel myself to be in that academic spirit which so sensibly and so properly pervades this place. Your kindness will, however, I am sure, overlook my deficiencies. And if you should detect that I belong to an older school than that which is in vogue nowadays, you will kindly remember that it is full fifty years since I became a humble Christian worker, and that I was brought up on *What is the chief end of man?* a diet which I do not believe has ever been surpassed.

Mr. Matheson took the warmest interest in the British and Foreign Bible Society. He was treasurer for the Hampstead auxiliary for twelve years, and on several occasions presided at the Hampstead annual meeting of the society. He became a vice-president in 1892.

He was also a staunch friend to the London City Mission, and when presiding at a meeting for the society in Hampstead in 1894, he mentioned that he had had the honour of being chosen as a member of the parent committee more than forty years before, and had served with great satisfaction for some years, but that his engagements in the city did not admit of his attending with that regularity which he felt to

essential, so that with much reluctance he had hdrawn.

Many other missions were indebted to him for npathy and help, such as the McAll Mission in nce, of which he was for some time the London surer.

From the establishment of the Reformatory ool for Girls in Hampstead, Mr. Matheson had do with its management. He was the means securing the services of Miss Nicoll, the able erintendent. He presided at the committee which regularly at the school, and usually also at the ual gathering in winter, when the girls who had e well in service were rewarded, and those still in school encouraged to follow their example. The s were not an easy class to influence for good, and

business life in London, the Young Men's Christian Association was founded, and from the first the movement interested him greatly. In the *Association News* of March, 1898, we find the following account of his connection with the work :—

His name appears amongst the earliest records of the Association, and during the intervening years, many though they be, his interest has never slackened, and his personal service has been always at the disposal of the Association. For many years he was a member of the council, and a trustee of the Central Association, taking a keen interest in the work in the centre of London. In addition he was president of the Hampstead Association, taking an active part in the management of the work in that district, while as a vice-president of the National Council he was brought into touch with the work throughout the country.

In becoming first president of the Hampstead branch, Mr. Matheson took up the work really begun by a godly friend, Mr. Herbert Mayo, who was the means of taking and furnishing the first rooms above a boot-shop in the High Street, in the year 1873, the autumn before his death, which took place in September, 1874. The young men bought a clock for the rooms in memory of Mr. Mayo, on which is inscribed : "The Hampstead branch of the Y.M.C.A. was one of the last acts of a long life devoted to God's service."

Sir George Williams, the founder and president of the Y.M.C.A. in London, wrote to Mrs. Matheson :—

Your dear husband did so much, and was permitted by vice and otherwise to help the Y.M.C.A. for the whole the fifty years past, that we feel very grateful for God's odness to the Association through him. When the lease Exeter Hall was purchased, your dear husband's counsel d aid and name were a great help to us.

His note-books testify to the number of addresses delivered to many branch associations and the terest he took in the young men.

Another association for young men, much more cently started, and intended specially for young en from the Highlands, in which he took a keen terest, was the Caledonian Christian Club, 52, pper Bedford Place. At a meeting of its friends, ld in 1896, Mr. Matheson, who was the president,

attendance of the Countess of Rosslyn as her Grace's substitute on this occasion.

There is unquestionably a strong magnetic attraction possessed by this great metropolis. Large numbers of young men and women in all parts of the kingdom are brought under its influence and migrate to the great city in search of employment, generally without the very faintest idea of the difficulties, as well as the moral dangers, they will meet with on arrival.

Scotland is no exception. Our young people flock to London, and it is said there are more Scotsmen in London than the population of Edinburgh.

Some of us have for many years made strenuous efforts in various ways to deal with this matter. Lists of safe and comfortable lodgings have been kept, first by the old London Lay Union, an organization of which I am probably one of a very few survivors, afterwards by the Union of Presbyterian Young Men's Societies, of which I was the first president; and letters have been addressed to all ministers in Scotland urging them to let none of their young people leave for London without carrying a letter of introduction to the society, or to one of the ministers of our Presbyteries.

Such efforts were, however, only partially successful. We knew that many young men fell among unworthy associates and got into other difficulties; and when the late Rev. Mr. Burton Alexander came to London we had conference on the subject, and it was determined to open a club where young men and women could be received on their arrival in a Christian home, their spiritual welfare sought and all encouragement and help given to them, such as we knew to be infinitely welcome in beginning their life among

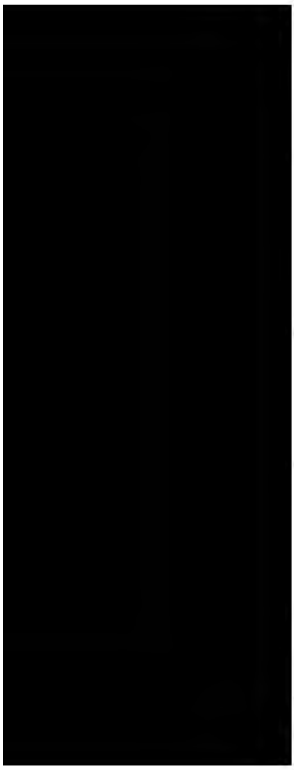
angers. Lost ones of both sexes have been sought out
l found, and there is now a large constituency of parents,
tors, employers and friends all over the United King-
m whose gratitude and attachment have been secured
cause of what the club has done for young persons of
ir own.

During the nine or ten years of our existence, nearly
oo have found this club a healthful, valuable and happy
me on the threshold of their life in London.

The reading-rooms are open to all friends of the club.
ere are social evenings with music and friendly inter-
rse. There is a labour bureau to aid in finding situa-
ns, and there are domestic servants' branches. Indeed I
not but feel that Mr. and Mrs. Robertson with all their
ughtful kindness and labour are to be envied for the
ount of loving Christian interest that gathers round their
me.

pected, where the heart was resting, and it was not difficult to leave a lesson of sweet trust—the work all completed by "the dear Lamb of God," and to rest entirely and simply on Him.

Children, *learn portions of the Bible.* We scarcely know what a precious privilege it is to have the Bible in our hands. On the Continent of Europe there are many places where it is most difficult for any one to procure the Scriptures, and where much danger is incurred by those who try to make it known. I have heard of a Sunday School in France, where the children were not long ago examined on their Bible knowledge. One of them had learned 1,572 verses, and another 1,272. And what is better, they showed that they understood the meaning of what they had learned. Now the very learning of these verses is of unspeakable importance. Days of sickness and distress may come upon any of us, and you are quite as much exposed to such things in your circumstances as I am in mine. But I can tell you that when lying awake at night and in trouble there is infinite resource in being able to recall the words of some of those texts one has learned when young. "The entrance of Thy Word giveth light." It is told of a lad who came down to a wharf to look for employment that when asked what he could do he said, "I can try my best to do anything I am put to." "But what have you done?" "I have sawed and cut all my mother's wood for two years." "*And what have you not done?*" "Well, sir, I have not *whispered* once in school for a whole year." "That's enough; go on board my ship. I expect to see you master of her one day. A boy who can master a wood pile and bridle his tongue must be made of good stuff."



CHAPTER VII

Citizen Life

love Thy commandments above gold, yea above fine
Therefore I esteem all Thy precepts concerning all
to be right; and I hate every false way."—*Ps.* cxix.
28

CHAPTER VII

Citizen Life

THIS chapter is intended to show what Mr. Matheson was in the sphere of business and of politics, and his world-wide influence in public affairs. What he was in city hours and in the commercial world can be seen only from the impression he left upon those who knew him in this department of his active life. One or two such testimonies follow.

A business friend writes:—

After the crisis of 1847, Mr. Hugh Matheson became the managing partner of Matheson & Co., and conducted it with great success until the China trade ceased to be remunerative, and the firm's correspondents in China, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., practically ceased to export China produce to London.

Mr. Matheson then sought for other ways of employing the great capital of the house. The Rio Tinto Company was founded, and Mr. Matheson became its first chairman, which post he held until his death.

It is not too much to say that but for Mr. Matheson's untiring energy and business capacity, coupled with the co-

eration of his wealthy partners, the enormous works quired to develop the Rio Tinto mines would never ve been completed and this great company conducted its present prosperity.

This formed the principal occupation of the last twenty-ght years of Mr. Matheson's life, and the devotion with ich he served the company is only known to those sociated with him in its management.

Mr. Matheson was one of the last of the great London erchants of the past generation, a race which has now come almost extinct.

Devoted to whatever he undertook, always courteous, ways high-minded in every opinion he expressed, his life s a continuous example to all business men and will be ndly remembered by all those who had the privilege of owing him.

. . . He has for many years been to me the one man in business whose life I could look up to as one that was altogether and in all respects worthy of imitation, and I know of many who would have been scoffers at all "religious business men" but for the bright example of his life. I think you will like to know that I have never heard one unkind word said by any one in the business world against your dear husband, and I believe this is unique.

Perhaps it may here be added that there are not a few now in good positions in this and other lands who owe their start in life, if not also their subsequent success, to Mr. Matheson's wise counsel and helping hand.

From the narrative written for his children we learn that Mr. Matheson was "unanimously chosen as chairman of the London merchants connected with China and the East, associated to oppose the retrograde policy adopted in the new treaty proposed by Sir Rutherford Alcock, minister at Pekin in 1872, and which the Government, with Lord Clarendon as Foreign Minister, intended to ratify. We held (he writes) many meetings, and had correspondence with the Foreign Office, pointing out the objectionable parts. A deep interest was excited among the mercantile community, and a deputation which we arranged to wait upon Lord Clarendon, and which I led, was so numerously attended as to crowd the large hall at the new Foreign Office. The minister was profoundly impressed, but at the time he made answer to our arguments just as he had prepared to

beforehand, in the old official way." About a fortght later Mr. Matheson prepared a letter addressed the minister, "in which paragraph by paragraph ery single point was conclusively dealt with. This tter, when published in the *Times*, completely ttled the matter, and Sir Rutherford's treaty was andoned."

When the London Chamber of Commerce was rmed, Mr. Matheson was unanimously chosen chairan of the East India and China section, and his serces were so much valued that they would not allow m to resign.

Throughout life Mr. Matheson was from conviction strong and even an ardent supporter of the Liberal arty in politics. The essence of his political creed ay perhaps be read in few words in the following

in the Liberal interest: twice by the Northern Burghs; once by leading parties in the Inverness Burghs; then in 1882 by a large deputation of the Liberal Association of Middlesex, requesting him to stand for the County; and finally twice for the Borough of Hampstead.

To all these proposals he felt obliged to give one answer—that neither the claims of business nor the state of his health would admit of his accepting them.

In spare hours, however, Mr. Matheson worked hard for the Liberal cause throughout London. He was president of the Hampstead Liberal and Radical Association for many years. It was formed after the election of 1884 by the union of the Hampstead Liberal Association and the Hampstead Radical Association. He was also for a number of years president of the Hampstead Liberal Club.

Speaking at a meeting in Hampstead in connection with the London School Board elections, Mr. Matheson stated his convictions on the subject of public education, as follows:—

> We all remember that at the commencement of the great national movement there was a keen contest in this division, as indeed there was all over London—and I am not ashamed to own that the great anxiety which many of us felt at that time was to secure men who would see that the English Bible got its proper place in the schools. That great end was happily secured. Nothing is more gratifying than the place which has been given to the Bible in the

ucation provided by the School Board of London. It pears there was some degree of doubt in the minds of me teachers regarding the real sentiments and desire of e Board in this respect; and I have in my hand a letter hich was addressed by the Board to all head masters and ead mistresses to put them right about this, and to say at while explanations about the letter of Scripture, its story, geography and grammar, were good so far as they ent, the Board desired that "every opportunity should be ized, earnestly and sympathetically, to bring home to the inds of the children those moral and religious principles which the right conduct of their future lives must ecessarily depend."

Mr. Matheson was made a Justice of the Peace r Ross-shire in 1848, a Justice for the County of iddlesex in 1888, and when the Local Government

During the early part of one summer Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Henry Gladstone took Fern Lodge, the residence next to Heathlands, belonging to our friend Miss MacInnes. While they were there Mr. W. E. Gladstone paid them a visit on more than one occasion, and Mr. Matheson, with the hearty concurrence of Miss MacInnes, made a gate in the fence between the two gardens, so that Mr. Gladstone might come quietly into the Heathlands garden whenever he felt disposed to enjoy its shady walks or wider views. This has ever since been called the "Gladstone Gate."

The following letter tells of the last occasion on which Mr. Matheson saw Mr. Gladstone, for whom he cherished a deep admiration and affection :—

To his wife

CANNES *March 5th* 1896

. . . After a pleasant visit to Mr. Minto, I took a carriage and drove out to Lord Rendel's. Nothing could exceed the kindness of my reception. Saw Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, the Hon. Mrs. Henry Gladstone, Lady Rendel herself and the two other daughters we saw at Hampstead. Lord Rendel drove me up through his magnificent garden. I never saw anything so fine. He has made a carriage drive zigzagging up through a beautiful garden park, with old olives, palms, eucalyptus and all kinds of sub-tropical things to the top of his ground, where there is an old Roman aqueduct that supplies him with abundant water. The villa is gorgeous and most comfortable. Mrs. Gladstone is but frail. He is wonderfully brisk. Lady Rendel

xious to hear all about Mrs. Charles, Mr. Gladstone
e having been talking about her, and I told her some

To the same

3 LOMBARD STREET *June 14th* 1887

. Mary will tell you of the fun she and I had last
t a very grand party at the Hawaiian Minister's,[1] to
he Queen Kapiolani. We were introduced to Her
y, a round, rather short woman of dark skin. But
s not a word of English. She sat on a big low
t the head of the room. We were next presented to
rincess," a sister of the King; she speaks English
nd chatted for a while. I had a pleasant talk with
sband, General Dominis, who was delighted to hear
friendship for Mr. Wyllie, who was his warm friend,
admitted had done more for the Hawaiian people
ny other man, sacrificing his personal interest and

friend, Mr. McLeod. They looked to me, but I called on McLeod, not really knowing the words.

In the *Westminster Gazette*, of March 4, 1895, there appeared an account from a correspondent in the East of an interview with the Prime Minister of Japan, Count Ito.

"Yes, I was one of Mr. Matheson's boys," the Japanese Premier was reported to have said on the occasion. "I owe a great deal to him, and I shall never forget his home at Hampstead, though it is thirty-one years since I saw it." In telling the story of how Ito and his companions came to London the correspondent adds: "They had the good fortune to be commended to the care of a Christian man of sturdy common sense, Mr. Hugh Matheson, to whose wise counsels and fatherly care Japan owes not a little to-day."

The incident thus alluded to had occurred many years before; and, as it serves to illustrate his relations with the remoter East at a memorable moment in the history of Japan, Mr. Matheson's own detailed account of what he was able to do for "some Japanese" may be inserted:—

Soon after the opening of Japan to foreign intercourse, which followed on the treaty of peace, friendship, and commerce concluded between Lord Elgin and the Tycoon, August 26, 1858, one of the leading Daimios, Prince Chiosu, expressed a great desire to send some of his young men to England, that they might study the science and the

ies of the West with a view to the advancement of
ountry.
selected five youths from his country, Nagato, and
made arrangements with the representative of Jar-
Matheson & Co. at Yokohama to supply necessary
in England, he had them quietly put on board a
for Shanghai, it being still illegal for any one to
he country, and they were there put on board a
in charge of Captain Bowers, to be brought to
n, consigned to my firm of Matheson & Co. Cap-
owers was well known to me, as he had been kind
missionary, the Rev. Wm. Burns, on the coast of
On arrival in London, he brought his young
gers to my office. Their names were Ito, Side,
u, Nomuran, and Endo. Only Nomuran ventured
to speak a little broken English. I undertook
them suitably boarded, and to arrange for their
ion. I was extremely fortunate in inducing Dr.

sideration, they had decided that it was necessary two of them should go home, and that as they had too little English to explain properly to me their reasons, they wished me to arrange for their seeing Sir Rutherford Alcock, or failing him, two Japanese that were at Greenwich, to interpret for them. This was about two years after they had come. I saw them, and sufficiently understood their business, and consented to their wish that Ito and Side should return at once to Japan, and they went. About a year later, Endo, who had shown signs of pulmonary complaint, was advised to return home. The two who remained, Yamaou and Nomuran, made great progress. I sent them to Glasgow, Newcastle, and other places to study mining, ship-building, and other large industries. Nomuran joined a regiment of Rifle Volunteers. They remained five years, and then returned to Japan with an excellent training.

In the meantime a revolution had occurred which resulted in the abolition of the Tycoon, and the establishment of the Mikado as a constitutional sovereign, with ministers set over the various departments of State. Ito became Minister of Public Works; Yamaou, Assistant Minister; and Nomuran, Chief Commissioner of Railways. Ito came over to this country, and requested me to assist him in founding a College of Civil Engineering at Tokio, with a Principal who should be my *alter ego*, and Professors of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, etc., and Teachers of drawing, etc. I was also asked to find them a man to erect lighthouses all round the coast, another to introduce electricity—and by him all the telegraph lines in the country were laid—and another to teach the manufacture of glass. All this was done to the entire satisfaction of

d the Government. I was fortunate in obtaining the dvice of a relative of my own who had been the first sor of Engineering in Glasgow University, with assistance a scheme was framed for the College, upon the best experience in this country and in ny. In 1872 the College was fully established. ed to it there was a workshop, in which the students latter part of their course were trained at the bench, is not too much to say that the institution has been great success. It is now affiliated to the University. the close of the first curriculum of six years the nment selected twelve of the best students and sent to me, with the request that I would have them more rained in the several departments of work for which ere destined, viz., mechanical engineers, shipbuilders, spinners, architects, etc. Several were sent by me sgow University, where they entered the class of Sir

students had much success in prosecuting their professional studies. One was employed at building the new Eddystone Lighthouse. Another made himself master of the fishing industry, in order to introduce improvements in Japan. They are all now in important positions in their own country; two are professors in the University.

I need not say that I have received many tokens of grateful remembrance, not only from the original men, but also from many of those who subsequently passed through my hands.

Ito is now Marquis Ito, late Prime Minister.

Side is Count Inouye, formerly Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Ambassador to Corea.

Yamaou is Viscount Yamaou Yoso, formerly Minister of Public Works, now Controller of an Imperial Household.

Nomuran is Viscount Enoye, late Director-General of Imperial Railways.

Endo became Master of the Mint, but he lately died.

The following incident was related in an address to young men, and refers to one of the Japanese young men just mentioned :—

I remember, when one of the first of the Japanese youths that came to this country and were put under my care, was brought into contact with this epistle [to the Romans], his attention was arrested by the very powerful description of the natural, unrenewed heart of man contained in the first chapter, and the depths of depravity there pictured. He exclaimed, "That exactly describes my people!" And he pursued the study of the epistle

deepest interest for months together, returning to
th the most profound conviction of the truth of
tian revelation.

Matheson also spoke of two of them "who
ith us at Elsick, in taking leave, and thank-
for kindness, they expressed specially their
e for my having always prayed for their
at family worship."

CHAPTER VIII

Spain: The Rio Tinto Mines

Them that honour Me I will honour."—1 *Sam.* ii. 30.

CHAPTER VIII

Spain : The Rio Tinto Mines

IN the south-western corner of Spain, next to the border of Portugal, lies the province of Huelva ; and on the shores of that province, near the port of the same name, stands the old monastery of the Rábida, in which Columbus, the great navigator, received kindness and hospitality, and from which he sailed on his famous voyage of discovery to the new world of the West. The little river of Rio Tinto, which bore out his galleys to the ocean, comes down from the hills of the Sierra Morena ; and among these hills are rich stores of mineral wealth. The copper in the soil gave the river its name—from the varied tints on the rocky bed produced by it. As far back as the days of the Romans, mines were worked in this part of Spain, and some of their workings may still be seen.

In 1873 Mr. Matheson became chairman of the Board of the Rio Tinto Company, which was then formed to work the mines. The long period taken by the development of the work entailed heavy responsibility on the directors ; but it was eventually completely successful, and is now one of the largest

lie about there for two or three days. We left the steamer about two, and had to beat against the wind for four hours, when we were met by a steam launch, and finally landed at Huelva at seven o'clock in the evening. It was quite an adventure. The boatman gave us grapes, and the most beautiful bread, which kept us up.

The pier we are building here is a most wonderful structure, nearly 3,000 feet long, and very high, with upper and lower platforms—really a magnificent work, unrivalled in the world. It is now nearly finished. On Sunday there was a nice gathering of the English residents. Mr. Ross read the service. I was thankful to see and join in it, and that I had been led to establish it, as it is manifest it has been helpful to the families here.

To his children

HUELVA *October 11th* 1875

This is rather a wonderful place. A few years ago it was a small seaport town of 3,000 inhabitants, about the size of Dingwall, but, oh! so different in colour. Every house is whitewashed, and the effect from a distance against the low, red sandy hills behind the town, only partly covered with vegetation, is very picturesque indeed. Since the minerals began to be worked, and especially since we commenced making our railway and pier, the population has largely increased, and is now over 16,000, with new streets and new buildings in every direction. The people have a dark, very sunburnt appearance. The sun is still rather warm, and I find an umbrella agreeable, although nobody else carries one.

To-day, after inspecting the railway workshops, the station ground, the shipping of the ore, and the pier, we made a

arty of eleven, ladies and gentlemen, to visit the
convent of Rábida, from which Columbus sailed on
at voyage to discover America. He had called at
nastery, or convent, one day with his son, and asked
k of water, when he was hospitably received by the
named Perez; and this good and wise monk, when
gs and great men all frowned upon the plans of
bus for going on his voyage of discovery, encouraged
lped him, and procured him, eventually, assistance
he queen of that time at Madrid.

went in a little steam launch. In the monastery
are courts surrounded by arched promenades, with
and other trees still kept growing, and lots of empty
in which some of the English families occasionally
nd stay by way of change from Huelva. In one of
he roof is so arched that it forms a wonderfully good
ring gallery, as in St. Paul's Cathedral.

had been some alarm from an armed party of banditti, which had led them to telegraph to me not to venture up. We had not received the message, and, so far, nothing has occurred. On counting up the number of armed men that could be mustered to resist an attack, it was found that there was no cause for fear, and the alarm has been dissipated. We proceeded at once after breakfast to explore the interior of the mine, and a wonderful place it is. A long tunnel from five to six feet high, nearly, if not quite, half a mile, 800 metres, leads into the mine. We walked in a row, each carrying a lamp, and, on reaching the mineral, large, wide, and much higher openings began, most of them very old, constructed by the Romans, and by the Spaniards in later times. We walked for a couple of hours through three of the floors, if they can be called so, ascending from one to the other by ladder, or by mule inclines. They are working these galleries now. It was very warm in the mine. My thermometer rose from 72° at the outside to 92° in No. 7 floor; and had we been able to go into the higher floors, of which there are still two, it would have been up to 110°. After inspecting the mine, which we did in the most diverting costumes (I had an old coat of Mr. Carr's, reaching to about five inches above the wrist, and an old white wide-awake; Mr. Denny had a cape made out of a *North British Daily Mail*; others had turned their coats outside in), because the drip of the stalactites (beautiful blue colour, and often many feet long) composed of vitriol, destroys everything it falls upon. We then examined the large railway tunnel we are constructing at a greater depth to reach the ore. This was a very dirty job, blue clay in a liquid form rushing in at the inner end, and making the progress very

HUGH M. MATHESON

To-day we have been examining the ground for a
m to collect water against a dry season. We are
g in the first real rain that has fallen for three years,
s worth a great deal to us for copper.

To the same

HUELVA *October 22nd* 1875

ut doubt the mission [at Rio Tinto] is most en-
ng. It was touching to see the little boys crowding
e door of the empty house at Rio Tinto in poor
bsence [on account of his baby's illness], with their
ooks in little bags tied over their shoulders, and
so nice, just like our own home children. They
een marvellously tamed and benefited by Bain's
and discipline. I told them he was away,
t there would be no school, to their great dis-
ment.

This being a city, one must wear broadcloth; the Spaniards all like black. Ladies go to church dressed in deep black, the correct thing, a black veil or mantilla covering all. I suppose this continues to represent the darkness of the Romish religion—no brightness in it, always mourning, always the cross, always the sacrifice of the mass. We should show by our happy Christian lives that we rejoice in a living Saviour, and know the blessedness of trusting Him and following Him.

You would have enjoyed the diligence in which we travelled yesterday. We had eight horses, with a postilion riding one of the leading pair. This man rode the entire distance from Huelva to Seville, fifty-six miles, at mail-coach pace, and he would ride back next day.

To his wife

SEVILLE *October 26th* 1875

In the morning I saw with great interest the books of history and geography which Columbus carried with him on his voyage of discovery, with the most beautiful Latin notes on the margin in his own hand. They were presented by his son to the library here. Then in the afternoon I went with a picnic party to Italica, an ancient Roman city near this, where some of the great Romans were born—Adrian and Trajan, for instance—and where there is an immense amphitheatre, and large fields of mosaic floors, belonging to the houses of an immense city, said to have contained 400,000 inhabitants.

To the same

THE ALHAMBRA, GRANADA *October 28th* 1875

I could not be satisfied to be in the south of Spain without seeing this wonderful place, and am very glad

...ame, if it only gives me confidence in bringing you ...e some day.

Although I am sorry to say I know very little of the ...story of Spain, one can read it here in a way that cannot ...ily be forgotten; or should circumstances favour any ...dy of such matters, the memory of these scenes will ...rely help it.

We came here last night by railway, leaving Seville at ... a.m., all our friends seeing us off. It was two in the ...rning before we got here, there having been much delay ... the road, partly from a multitude of poor conscripts just ...ing collected, the second 100,000 this year, to go north ... the war. It was pitiable to hear the crying of women and ...ildren, as at each station the fine young fellows had to ... the train and leave their homes, many of them for ..., "the flowers of the forest" indeed.

We are put up at a hotel close to the Alhambra, the

To the same

MADRID *October 31st* 1875

Sunday Morning

The journey of twelve hours on top of diligence yesterday from Granada to join the railway at Menjibar was exceedingly pleasant. You know my liking for the top of a coach, and share it. The rocky scenery through which we passed was very striking and the day lovely.

To the same

CHÂLET FAIRLIE, PAU

[Rev. George Brown's home]

From this sweet haven I send you my last letter of this journey. Truly goodness and mercy have followed me all through. I telegraphed yesterday the safe arrival at St. Jean de Luz. The passage (from Santander) was made in a small boat. There was a pretty good tossing for part of the night, and the breeze was so strong as I lay on deck that I was afraid of cold, and went below and slept several hours comfortably on a cabin sofa, there being few passengers. We went in to San Sebastian, a beautiful place, to deliver and receive mails, and were under the Carlist Battery for nearly an hour, the wretched postmaster having slept in and been [illegible] of coming— we ought only to have been [illegible] that long enough. They (the Carlists) [illegible] strolling the town [illegible], and have [illegible] but without muc[illegible] was mid[illegible] one moving [illegible], but I [illegible] I believe, [illegible] ant to [illegible] ive yesterday [illegible] got to [illegible] f St. Jean de [illegible] in the [illegible] sage of twelve

. To-morrow, at 12.30, I hope to start for home
ht.

the following year, 1876, Mr. Matheson visited
nines in the spring and again in the autumn.
he latter occasion he was accompanied as far
arritz by his wife and eldest daughter, and they
wards followed him to Spain, visiting Madrid,
do, and Seville, and thence by carriage to
la, where they met him in the special train
down from the mines to Huelva at the exact
appointed by him before they left Biarritz.
visiting Huelva and the mines he took them
ranada to see the beautiful Alhambra he had
elf so greatly enjoyed the previous year, and
e by diligence to Menjibar and back to Madrid
rain. They visited the Rev. George Brown at

point of view the work will be much better done by giving their men a whole Sunday's rest, but that if it were otherwise I could not sanction its being done at such an expense as the breaking of the Sabbath.

To his eldest daughter

RIO TINTO *November 16th* 1880

. . . I found the school at Huelva, with Mr. Johnston and Dorothea, going on very nicely. It was on Sunday morning that I went in to see them in the Sabbath School. Mr. Jimenez had charge of the senior scholars in the principal schoolroom. Mr. Johnston had the little boys, or rather the younger and more ignorant, in another, while Dorothea had the girls at the end of the large room, and a pretty little maiden had the infants in a third room. They made them read round, and then examined and taught them the lesson, apparently very well, and the children behaved admirably. After the school Mr. Broadfoot had his service in the church. In the evening there was a service in his own house for sailors and others, when the Rev. Mr. Mills, of Kirkpatrick Fleming, Dumfriesshire, gave the address.

Here [at the mines] Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle are doing famously. I visited the school to-day and spoke to the children, Mr. Carlyle interpreting, but the younger ones could not restrain their amusement at the foreign language, so I cut it short, and promised to see them again. Poor wee things! they had had their best clothes on for two days last week expecting to see me, this of their own accord, but I could not get there.

In the spring of 1882 the King of Spain paid a

to the Rio Tinto mines. The great event is described in a long letter to his children.

HUELVA *March 4th* 1882

Y DEAR CHILDREN,—

I had no idea when leaving home that I was to have honour of receiving the King of Spain as a guest g this visit to Rio Tinto. You now know, however, at Madrid we were informed that the king and queen, ell as his majesty's sister, were to come on the 2nd d of this month, and most of my time since reaching va has been occupied with devising and executing s for making the royal visit a success.

r some reason, probably political, the queen and nfanta decided not to come, and there was much te among the local magnates. But I am glad now y that the visit is over, and has passed off in such y as to gratify the king in a remarkable degree, and

opposite the celebrated monastery of the Rábida, and spent a couple of hours visiting it and having, as we afterwards learned, an *al fresco* luncheon there. It was about five o'clock when the two ships came up opposite our pier. We went alongside and were invited to go on board. Introduced to the king, I expressed to him our great satisfaction at his majesty's proposing to visit the mines, and that we should do all in our power to make the visit agreeable to him—that we were quite ready to act upon his wishes, and trusted his majesty would find the visit to be full of interest, etc., etc. He replied in French that he would like to go at once this evening to the mines, and that after receiving the provincial and municipal authorities he would be ready. I accordingly fixed the train for half-past six, and telegraphed to the mines to have dinner ready on our arrival. At a quarter to seven we got away. A splendid staff of officers, civil and military, accompanied the king, all decorated profusely with stars and medals, and our little saloon carriage, in beautiful order, was pretty well filled, besides the four other carriages that formed the train. The king was most agreeable, talked the whole way with the greatest animation, but as he is greatly forgetting his English, and finds it irksome to speak it, Mr. Doetsch did the principal talk, and made him acquainted with many of the details of our work in this province. Almost everybody smoked, of course, and observing that I did not he said, "You are like a friend of me at Sandhurst, who put up a notice in his room, 'Do not smoke here.'" I assured his majesty, however, that I did not object at all to others doing it. It was too dark to pay any attention to the scenery on the way, and we only stopped twice, at Niebla and Utrera,

er the engine, and at Berrocál to land a triumphal
hich the stationmaster there had begged to have
o him. We reached the mines at ten, but it was
reat difficulty the heavy weight could be got up
st incline of one in twenty-five, owing to the greasy
of the rails from a slight shower. The directors'
e had never been taken up before, but Mr. Prebble
eatly improved the curve and made it perfectly safe
e it up to the open cast and workshops. There
iant arch had been erected and a platform, and
time after ten we reached our destination. The
c lights and the moon combined to illuminate the
cast in quite a splendid manner, and not only the
ut the members of his staff were profoundly im-
d by the sight. There was a great crowd of the
, but they behaved in the most admirable way, lining
th by which we walked to the Casa Grande. The
n front of that residence was literally crammed. A

him. Right and left of me were the minister of marine and the governor of the province. The minister is, like me, an abstainer; he is an old man, and took little part in the activities attending the visit. Most of us set out for the midnight ramble, and mounted a train of three flat waggons, with garden seats back to back, placed on them sideways, such as was made for me on the occasion of my last visit, when I was lame; only Mr. Prebble had covered them with awnings, arranged so as exactly to clear the arch of the underground galleries.

We went to the great tunnel, and proceeded about 900 metres into the mine, seeing the galleries which are being cut right and left, the work going on by night as well as by day. At very short notice the people had been warned of our coming, to prevent blasting, which might have been dangerous. One fuse, however, had already been lighted, and the blast occurred with a magnificent boom which was very impressive. We went along what is called the *south real*, a long tunnel along the south side of the lode intended to connect the whole mine on this level, extending to three kilometres, and only stopped at the point which the work has reached. The king and his staff were in great delight. He made full inquiries, and took a most intelligent interest in the whole affair. "I understand," he said, "you are the chief of this business. What position does Mr. Doetsch occupy? how many directors are there? what is the capital of the company? how much profit will you pay to the shareholders?" etc., etc.

It was past two in the morning before we got back. The room I had destined for myself, next the dining-room, had to be appropriated to the service, so I went to sleep at Mr. Carlyle's and had a most comfortable night, return-

about half-past seven, to see all ready for the start to
the works. After tea and coffee all round, the king
ng his in his room, we got under way about half-past
t, mounted our waggons at the same place, and started
for San Dionisio, the western branch of the present
outh lode, by a line round the Mesa de los Pinos,
mountain of ironstone close to the town. We got a
view, as we ascended, of the burning mineral heaps
all the cementations and other works to be afterwards
ed, passing the first or south reservoir, the new houses
he staff at Bella Vista, and showing the extensive
s, shafts, pumps, etc., being erected and some of
n in full work in this splendid lode. Every ton raised
is of fine quality and goes for shipment to England,
out any *selection*, such as is absolutely necessary else-
re. There is some very large machinery here, which
e a great impression. We then went back round the

company houses the people, I took him some distance on foot, near the Roman graves which you remember, and showed him a village we are erecting there, two or three rows being already occupied. The king entered two of the cottages, and was much pleased with them. They contain three rooms. He conversed with the occupants for some time, asking all about their work, their circumstances, etc., etc., with great intelligence and good feeling. Before leaving the mines he desired that £5 should be given to each of the families he visited. Remounting the waggons we went into the mine by the north lode tunnel, as far as it goes, and saw then also the galleries, right and left, being driven. He spoke to a workman who happened to be standing with his lamp where we stopped, and learned all particulars about their hours of labour, etc., catechising very closely. This completed our programme, and we got back to a grand luncheon, the whole place turning out with the utmost enthusiasm, shouting "Viva el Re" at the pitch of their voices at intervals every few moments. Now and then a poor woman got plump down on her knees in front of the king to petition for something. He immediately stopped and heard her story and said a kindly word, which was probably the extent of the benefaction. After luncheon the king and suite went to church to prayers, on the way to the railway. I remained outside to keep order and be ready to accompany his majesty. It was with the greatest difficulty that a way was kept clear, such was the pressure of the large population to see their king. We got away finally at three, the English community, ladies and all, mustering on the platform to see him off. At a point soon after starting we have to shunt into the open cast, and while we were there just moving

wly out, I heard the "Hip, hip, hurrah!" which no lungs t those of Britishers can sound, and informed the king, o came out to the platform of the carriage and specially knowledged their cheer, looking up to the vantage ound where they stood at a well-chosen corner.

Soon after we started a perfect deluge came on, the ather having been only slightly broken during the visit, ich was a great mercy. We had the opportunity of plaining the enormous value of such rain for copper-aking, promoting the decomposition of the ore exposed it in a broken state, which prepared it to yield its copper re rapidly. Without incident, except the enthusiasm a great crowd at Niebla, where the civic authorities esented an address, we arrived at Huelva at six, and nt on in the train to the pier, which the king examined th great interest. The steamer *Valentia* was just com-eting her load of 1,700 tons, and a train of mineral was

room and library, the guests at both were visible to each other. There was a most brilliant service, the king's men waiting, and everything very good. The king was the most animated speaker at table and was full of enthusiasm, enjoying himself very much. He says it is German he speaks at home, and he was pleased to say he "felt quite at home and lost that dignity and reserve which he felt generally when among strangers."

About 9.30 we all adjourned to the large billiard-room in the grounds, which has been splendidly decorated with evergreens. There we moved about and chatted with one another, the king and Sundheim playing a game at billiards with considerable skill. After ten, as I was under the complete delusion it was Saturday night! I took the opportunity of Carballos' leaving to ask to be permitted to take my leave also. His majesty grasped my hand, and said he had been very much touched by all the attention I had shown him and the great treat he had had in coming. He held my hand all the time, thanked me most warmly, said he should like very much to come back again, and at all events trusted he would have the pleasure of seeing me again. Although we did not speak much together he told his venerable major-domo, Count Sepūlveda, how much he had been struck with my careful attention, directing the movements of our officers, giving instructions as required and constantly seeing that all was right. Before leaving at eleven at night to go on board, he sent me a particular message of thanks, repeating many kind expressions.

I went home full of thankfulness that all had gone off so wonderfully well, and that we had evidently secured a friend in the king.

On Monday morning we expect to go to the mines for

week to attend to our work. It is quite cool here, eat except in the direct rays of the sun.

my room at Mr. Sundheim's, your likenesses are d about in plush frames standing on the tables, a thoughtful kindness.

forgot to say that I ordered a photographer from le to take views of the royal visit, and we posed before uge apparatus on two occasions. The first, he said, d out a failure. I doubt if the second is much r, but have not heard the result. The Spanish papers ourse report the visit in their own way. We have osely avoided doing anything for the English press, se it might be supposed we wished to influence the s! The royal visit was unsought by us, and so far e *reporting* of it goes, we shall leave that to others. ought I should like my children to know from myself principal incidents of a visit which I must think im-nt and memorable. I have certainly been "diligent

I had never before landed. Yesterday morning, immediately after breakfast, I went over to the Gulicks' and spent the day with them till the afternoon train brought me on here.

Rev. Wm. H. Gulick and his wife, after ten years at Santander, founding the churches in that district on a permanent footing, removed two years ago to San Sebastian, as being a better centre in every respect. They are training girls of a better class, who board in the house. The house is admirable and the work is going on well.

On coming here this morning, I found that there was really no need for my being here yesterday, because I could not have left before this evening (when I do leave), the train being only three nights in the week. It was, therefore, without losing any time that I was able to enjoy both Pau and San Sebastian, the former by design, the latter by a providential arrangement unsought and at first regretted.

To the same

HUELVA *February 10th* 1885

Saw the Huelva Schools to-day, *in excellent order*—the boys with their new teacher, and the girls under Madame Zimenes, and Rafaela, who continues steadily to work there. Mr. Lundie, who has been padre here for about a year and is leaving for Tharsis, is a good educationist and has been giving attention to the school. He has prepared some school-books, and I hope to arrange for a joint printing of them on a large scale for use in all our schools.

To the same

RIO TINTO *February 12th* 1884

. . . Mr. Johnston was absent at the Atalaya School

n I called to-day. The children were intensely in-
sted when I went in. The older ones all knew me.
re are 488 on the roll; average attendance, 367;
bath School average attendance, 222.
he archbishop left me his blessing. He made no
e about the schools—wished only that I could join
communion. He was greatly struck on Sunday to see
almost entire cessation of labour by 10,000 people.

To the same

MADRID *March 13th* 1886

'e have just had a rather remarkable and most suc-
ful dinner in our room—the late Prime Minister, and
ably the biggest man in Spain, Canovas del Castillo,
the other directors of our railway. Only Sagasta, the
ent Prime Minister, and Carballo were absent. The
ier had a Cabinet Council, or he would have come with
greatest pleasure. I went to see him this morning

Began at seven, and they were all gone before ten. Señor Moret, I found afterwards, put his head in at the door, intending to pay his respects to me, but when he saw the distinguished company we had he withdrew at once. He is Minister of Foreign Affairs, you know.

To the same

ZAFRA *March 25th* 1886

We left Huelva on Tuesday morning by the new railway under construction, of which no part is yet opened to the public. Crossed the viaduct that we visited last year, and got on some miles farther as far as the rails are laid; then took to the horses and rode along the track of the line and its neighbourhood, through a wild and most difficult country, reaching the house of Mr. Norton, the contractor for the middle part, about seven in the evening. Had a good rest, and rode about eight hours next day—as wild and difficult a ride as could be found in any country in the world. At night we reached the house of another contractor, Mr. Mayboll, a Dane, whom I have known many years. His wife is a Spanish lady, and was very attentive to our wants. This morning we remounted about nine, and after only half an hour's ride came to the queen's highway, where a carriage with four horses was waiting, and with two hours for rest, and breakfast at the divisional engineer's, Mr. Roedeggar, at Fregenal, we reached this place about half-past six this evening.

It has been an immense enjoyment crossing the mountains, and though a little stiff, I shall be greatly the better of it.

To the same

MADRID *March 30th* 1886

Had a splendid day at Toledo, and will have a more isfactory impression of its most interesting monuments. oret has been here this afternoon, and has fully explained present position in the negotiations for a treaty with gland, and has asked our good offices to get the diffi- ties in England removed. All here are most anxious remove the strained relations between the two coun- s, and I think we shall be able to do something to help m. I have also had with me the special correspondent the *Times*, Mr. Thomson, a Scotchman, who is also st earnest about our helping him in his efforts. He was friend of the king, and took a sanguine view of the cts of his reign, and helped by his articles to the *Times* remove the pessimist impression which is the character- c of most Spaniards in speaking of their country.

Morat says I get younger and younger, and I have

To the same

JABÚGO PROVINCE OF HUELVA
December 5th 1887

We came up here on Saturday, in order, after a quiet Sunday, to get the week for business. Three hours in train, two and a half hours on horseback, and an hour on foot, made up, with stoppages, ten hours, and we arrived here at half-past seven in the evening; the last hour on foot by a mule path of the usual eccentric formation, holes and ridges following each other any way. I never thought that the box of fusees which I put into my pocket would come in so handy. It was pitch dark, moon not up, and though we had a guide it was impossible to see him, so we let off matches every now and then to determine where the path led and avoid dangers. I was thankful when we all got safely here. A house had been hired, beds, etc., of the railway service put in, and a table was spread with every comfort in a rough way.

On Sunday morning, taking a stroll out in the forenoon while the man prepared the breakfast, to take a look at the road by which we had come, and walking down a steep street on the side walk, my right foot slid forward, as I had nail boots on, upon a smooth flat stone, and I fell on the other foot. I was not in the least hurt in any other way, but the tendons about the ankle-joint got a severe strain, which makes rest for a few days necessary. We thought it well to get the doctor of the town, and he is evidently doing all that is required. The zeal, however, of Mr. Doetsch, who with Mr. Blum is attention itself, has insisted on sending down for Dr. Alexander Mackay (Huelva), and he is on the way up already, though it is only twenty-four

s since the accident, and he was only sent for by
ess at three o'clock this morning to Cortegana Tunnel,
telephone from there. He will accompany me down,
Mr. Doetsch must do the rest of the business without

S.—Dr. Mackay has arrived, and has beautifully band-
my leg in a splint. He watches it for one day in case
ny inflammation, and will then put it in plaster of
to take me down to Huelva.
othing could be more comfortable than all the pro-
n made for me. The long distance, ten hours' journey,
e only drawback. But that will be got over all right.
full of thankfulness.

To the same

JABÚGO *December 6th* 1887

st a few lines to keep you informed. Still on the
l of my back, with my leg swung up to the longitu-

down from Jabúgo to Huelva, a journey which occupied just twelve hours, without either pain or fatigue.

All arrangements had been made for carrying me on a litter brought up by Dr. Mackay, till we came to the saloon carriage, which was pushed on as far as was possible beyond the opened working part. Six men, three at each end, went steadily along at the rate of about three miles an hour, relieved by six others about every kilometre or less. I got on to the litter from my bed, and did not get off it till we reached the railway saloon, when I lay down till we reached Huelva. The day was a feast day at Jabúgo, and as we started at a quarter before nine, the inhabitants in large numbers crowded the windows and streets. A young engineer, Don Victor, had, with a bevy of fifteen men, worked hard night and day at a road from the town to the Carretéra, or high road, and had got it into a condition of order which it is easy to believe it had never before possessed since it was opened. A pioneer walked in front with a big spade on his shoulder, to remove any accidental obstruction, and so careful were they that another sort of foreman navvy also went in front with big scissors to clip any stray bramble or other branches that might be in the way. A most beautiful way it was, amid groves of splendid chestnut trees, cork trees, olives, evergreen oaks, etc., etc., and the walls covered by masses of bramble and other wild plants in the greatest luxuriance.

The local doctor and some of the population accompanied me to the Carretéra, about three kilometres. Dr. Mackay's attendant, Ramon, never left my side the whole journey, and took command of the men, calling out for the reliefs when necessary, about two dozen men being always with us.

To the same

HUELVA *December 17th* 1887

is will probably be my last from Huelva, as I go to le on Monday afternoon. To-day I have put the foot t half to the ground, dividing the weight with my hes. To-morrow, perhaps, I may get it down more y, and on Monday the plaster will be renewed. I to hear in answer to my suggestion of H. coming to me. Mr. D. will take a room for me at his hotel aris, but as he does not go farther I shall be glad of one with me for the journey home.

To the same

MADRID *March 31st* 1888

tting on well; health excellent. No carriages allowed rday, so had to walk a good deal, to Sir Clare Ford, but foot none the worse, and really getting more in-

morning. He was very nice. The German ambassador comes to-night, Baron Stumm.

To the same

MADRID *October 31st* 1888

We had a beautiful dinner last night at Señor Canovas'. His wife is charming, speaks English well, and was very nice and kind. I took her to dinner. There was a small party of six, but everything beautifully done. Canovas showed me the old Carlist flags taken in the war, and presented to him, as he had closed the last Carlist War when he was minister.

To the same

RIO TINTO *November 7th* 1888

It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of this journey, or the enormous change which has taken place in the estimate of our business. We have made many friends.

I had an hour yesterday with Mr. Lundie over the schools, and hope to get something done for their improvement. Canovas instructed his friends to see the schools and the hospital. He cannot think enough of our doing so much for the people.

To the same

HUELVA *November 13th* 1888

J. will be glad to know that we have sanctioned the building of the Seamen's Club, church, and schools at Huelva. Mr. Osborne will adjust the plans with the padre, as I have made some suggestions for their improvement. I prefer having the whole under the control of the company.

HUGH M. MATHESON

t is most curious to see how interested the Madrid ple are in the schools. I used to be told how dan- ous it was, and what a risk I was making the company by the teaching of religion in these schools, and that it t be given up. Now the very highest people cannot mend the schools too much, and the people themselves seeing what a blessing they have been to their families. re used to be letter writers at Rio Tinto, who charged a eta (franc) for writing a letter to dictation. Now the dren do all that for them, and they qualify themselves situations of trust instead of to be merely labourers and dges.

To the same

MADRID *November* 16*th* 1888

. . Sir Clare Ford told me he had seen the queen erday in private audience, and had told her all about visit, especially dwelling on the delight with which he

father has given them, a splendid mansion in a fine garden. I had some important conversations with her.

To the same

MADRID *November 22nd* 1888

. . . I called the queen's attention to-day to Thomson's beautiful letter about her in last Monday's *Times*. Her private doctor, Dr. Riegel, lunched with us to-day. I knew him when with the king at Huelva. Unfortunately I had sent my copy to Mrs. Canovas, and the hotel copy is minus that page, being always cut by the newsagents to keep the postage down to a penny, and they have probably cut off the piece from all the copies that came to Spain. Mine had it.

To the same

RIO TINTO *December 7th* 1894

We have had a fine ride on horseback to Campo Frio this forenoon. There is a large reservoir there, and we wanted to see what possibilities there are for its extension. After lunch here my friends went on some quests that it was not needful for me to join in, so I went to Mr. Carlyle's school, and saw him and Mrs. Carlyle; also visited their infant school, which is at some distance and largely attended—about one hundred and forty. The mistress, an excellent Christian woman, died last week, and the three assistants are meantime carrying it on. One of these has long been in the schools as scholar and teacher, and I knew her at once and she me. None of them were expecting me, but all looked well, clean, and intelligent.

After that I walked up to the hospital. It is simply admirable. The additions we made to it a few years ago,

d which I had not seen, are very good, and it is an in-
tution of which the doctors and nurses are justly proud.
here are only twenty-two patients just now, and no very
d cases.

To his eldest daughter

RIO TINTO *January 16th* 1897

The influence of what we have done for Rio Tinto—the
nday rest, the schools, and the treatment of our officers—
said to be widely felt over Spain, where there is a longing
Sunday rest from labour. I have never seen things
ing so smoothly, and so well generally, as this time, and
glad I was able to come for once more. It is a
gnificent establishment, and quite unique in Spain, if
also in foreign countries generally.

To his wife

To his eldest daughter

RIO TINTO *January 21st* 1897

McCarthy sent me to-day a letter from a Mrs. Colonel Ross, of Edinburgh. The colonel and she had visited the Mines lately, and he had shown them round the schools. She writes: "Of all that we saw, nothing more surprised us than the finely conducted schools that we saw in the different villages, and the quiet way religious instruction was imparted to the young people from the fountain head, the Bible; our previous impression being that it could not be done, as the priests would snuff out every attempt. I have frequently told people who take pleasure in Christian progress that the children in the Scottish schools could not beat the children in Rio Tinto schools in answering the questions in the Shorter Catechism. And strange to say they are Roman Catholics. No doubt the day will show that it has been the means of adding names to the Church of the firstborn."

We may recall here a striking fact noted in a speech made by Mr. Matheson in 1879. Speaking of Chinese emigrants, and what splendid missionaries they would make if converted to Christianity, he mentioned having known a Chinese family who travelled in Spain as acrobats. They carried Bibles and tracts in the Spanish language, and were missionaries wherever they went.

When Mr. Matheson was at Strathpeffer during the summer of 1897, the news reached him that Señor Canovas, his friend, had been assassinated at a Spanish watering-place in the presence of his wife.

He was much affected, and at the prayer meeting in the meeting house to which he was going prayed with great fervour and emotion for Spain.

We have now come to the last visit Mr. Matheson paid to Spain and the Mines, only two months before his last illness.

To his wife

RIO TINTO *December 2nd* 1897

We came up to the mines after lunch to-day, a beautiful bright day, and everything looking its very best. There has been some nice painting of rooms and refurnishing done, and the house is very nice and comfortable. The old lady is in high bliss at getting us. I am taking it rather easy, and not undertaking fatigue that is unnecessary.

To the same

RIO TINTO *December 9th* 1897

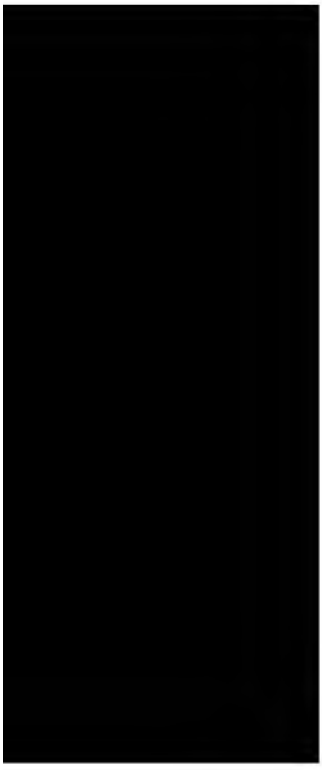
We have had it wonderfully fine here, but the wind was bitterly cold at first, and I got a severe ear-ache, which has now gone. Nobody is exempt from turns of something. We still hope to be able to leave finally on Monday. It is by no means child's play, but the results of our personal investigations and consultations on the spot have been of the greatest value to the company, the success of which is very marked, and has attracted universal notice, without its being known how much is due to our assiduous attention.

Before closing this record of his connection with Spain and work for it, we give an extract from an address he gave in Hampstead on missions in Spain. It seems to sum up the results. After mentioning

other evangelical agencies in Spain—Bible Schools, etc.—he goes on :—

In my own locality much has been done in this way. We have schools with twelve hundred children, who are taught the Bible every day. At the time, eighteen years ago, when we began industrial works in the south of Spain, I resolved that I would try to establish the observance of the weekly day of rest. My colleagues believed it could not be done; there were so many saints' days that if Sunday work were also stopped we should never get on. I persevered, however, and succeeded, so that now, in the greatest industrial works in Spain, and perhaps in the world, employing over ten thousand hands, no work is done on the Lord's Day, except that which cannot be avoided. The people themselves are so well pleased with the arrangement that I am told by the managers anything else would be resented by them. The most important personages in Spain have made themselves acquainted with the work, and it is impossible to tell how far the influence of it may be felt and the example be followed.

It is glorious to think of the many from Spain who are among the blood-washed throng before the Lamb. The material glories of Spain may have passed away, but all that is spiritual is everlasting. It never passes away. And there will yet be from that fair land a goodly multitude of justified ones, who have yet to be won. It is for us to see that the Gospel is sent to them.



CHAPTER IX

His Highland Home

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."—*Ps.* cxxi. 1, 2.

CHAPTER IX

His Highland Home

FROM his earliest years Mr. Matheson loved the Highlands and the Highland people. His parents were both members of Highland families, his father coming from Sutherland and his mother from Ross-shire; his own character had many Celtic traits. He understood and valued the good points among the Celts, and they loved and appreciated him.

In 1858 he took Elsick Cottage, Strathpeffer, situated on the crest of the hill by the road leading to the West Highlands, where the estate of Coul marches with that of Cromartie. The air is singularly pure and healthy; and Mr. Matheson found that even a few days spent there from time to time had a marvellous effect in refreshing him. Here he made his beautiful Highland home, which became dear to many besides his own immediate family as the scene of many happy holidays. The district all round is very beautiful, surrounded by hills, of which Ben Wyvis is the highest. In later years he bought the property of Little Scatwell, eight miles to the west, among the hills and moors

and rivers, where he built a lodge, and used occasionally to go for fishing and quiet rest.

When staying there he used to gather the neighbours into the Lodge for a Sabbath evening service, as many of them were unable to walk the six miles to the nearest church. In recent years the minister has arranged to hold services twice a month in that district, which are much valued.

For a number of years he assisted in the management of the estate of Coul for his cousins, the Mackenzies; and handed over the estate in a much improved condition to the present baronet, Sir Arthur Mackenzie, on his attaining his majority, in 1886. On that joyful occasion, when the tenantry and neighbours were met to welcome the young laird, Mr. Matheson said, in the course of his speech:—

> It was a singular fortune to be trusted by the three brothers who successively inherited the estate of Coul after the death of their father, Sir George. Blood is thicker than water, and it was a real pleasure to me to do anything that was in my power for the family. The memory of their mother, a daughter of Mr. Macleod, of Geanies, must be ever fragrant with those who had the privilege of knowing her. The singular gentleness of her demeanour will long, I trust, remain a characteristic of her descendants.

In another speech on that same occasion he said:—

> I am not one of those who believe for a moment that

the days of mutual respect and attachment between landlords and tenants are gone, never more to return. The enormous and rapid changes which have taken place within the space of a single generation—means of transit, education, the press, and now the extension of the franchise—all point to the necessity of a readjustment of the old relations in every community. It is not by any means unnatural that in a country like the Highlands of Scotland, where the press has as yet but a limited influence, the pace at which that readjustment proceeds should be slower than it is elsewhere, or that it should prove too slow for some of the more eager and restless spirits of our time. But I entertain the firm conviction that the land question has only to be approached in a spirit of Christian self-restraint and forbearance on both sides, to find a happy settlement.

A good many years later, when present at the opening of the Mineral Waters Hospital, Strathpeffer, by Lady Cromartie, he told how enormous had been the progress in the district during his connection with it, and added:—

It will probably be a surprise to you to learn that when we came here, and for some time after, there was no resident doctor, and that the first one was brought here by me. It is true we were able to have the advice of a very eminent surgeon, when we could get hold of him, for his diocese extended from the Moray Firth on the one side to the Minch on the other. I refer to Dr. Ross. He was my valued personal friend, and a kinder man never lived.

The securing of the first resident doctor was only

e of many benefactions to the strath. In every ort for the good of the district, whether temporal spiritual, Mr. Matheson took a leading part.

About the year 1860 a Sabbath School was begun Elsick during the summer months, and was for ne years the only one held in the district. Every ar, in connection with this, there was a tea and ssionary meeting, to which the parents were also ited. A missionary from China was usually the aker on these occasions, and the people became erested in the work so dear to Mr. Matheson. He metimes addressed the children himself. On one ch occasion, when speaking to them, he said :—

Now, when you come to Jesus, you believe in Him, you st Him, and, young as you may be, you put your hand o His hand, just to be led by Him every step. And this

he doing?" You may believe that the teacher was only too glad to tell them.

In the course of an address he gave in Strathpeffer, he thus referred to the preaching of former days in the Highlands:—

I am old enough to remember days of the right hand of God's power in this north country, so dear to me. Under the preaching of Dr. Macdonald, of Charles Mackintosh, of Stewart of Cromarty, there were days of the right hand of God's power in this land, and many were brought to give up the world and follow Christ. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." I have known them hardly able to get home, so deep and overwhelming was the sense of sin and of their need.

Mr. Matheson was in full sympathy with the Free Church principles with which the vast majority of the Highland people identified themselves; and he took a deep and helpful interest in many of the ministers and congregations throughout the north. He was the means of having the *Free Church Monthly Record* translated into Gaelic, and circulated very widely for many years. He had most pleasant personal intercourse with many Highland ministers during their visits to the strath to drink the waters.

The following was kindly contributed by Rev. Principal Rainy:—

I should like to offer a few sentences in regard to the interest which Mr. Matheson took in the Highlands. His

wer of extensively aiding that work by contributions ied at different periods of his life. But the warmth l wideness of his interest never varied. Not merely Strathpeffer, where, as a resident during part of each r, he recognised special obligations, but in reference to ry part of the field, he was an earnest and discriminating nd.

He was an excellent adviser in this department, because understood the Highlands sympathetically. The pest convictions in Highland religion he heartily shared l cherished — reverence for the Scriptures, love to inances, sense of the majesty of God, recognition of necessity of conversion and of the greatness of the nge. He knew the power and depth of the type of gious experience with which is associated so much of light and shade of Highland religion. He was per- ly aware, however, of the unwisdom of encouraging ense antipathies in minor matters and of the prejudices

much depends on that, and every sign of progress in that direction rejoiced him greatly.

On the occasion of the induction of the Rev. James Johnstone to the Strathpeffer Free Church as its first minister, in August, 1896, Mr. Matheson gave a little sketch of the origin of the meeting house. After describing the building of the Jamestown Free Church soon after the Disruption, he went on to say :—

For the visitors to the famous waters, many of them infirm, and for the older residents attached to the Free Church, there was no provision at this end of the district, except a service held on Sabbath evenings in the ruins of the old infirmary, so long as it was allowed to stand.

Some earnest men began about 1858 to have a service in the open air upon a small piece of waste land opposite the pump room; and I still hear the voices of Mr. McWatt, of Rothes; Mr. Macleod, of Loch Broom; Mr. Waters, of Burghead; Mr. Colin Young, and many others who did noble service at that time. The low-roofed barn at Ardival above the water-mill was secured for a season or two, and I have never known more precious meetings than those which were held in these most primitive and most humble circumstances.

It came into my heart to erect a building, if possible, in which to hold these greatly prized meetings, and having had the pleasure of the acquaintance, in early life, of the late Duchess of Sutherland, Countess of Cromartie, then Marchioness of Stafford, I represented the matter to her, and applied for the open-air site, which was immediately and most kindly granted. The meeting house then erected,

and in which we are now assembled, was opened in November, 1861, by a service in Gaelic by Mr. Campbell, of Kiltearn, and in English by Mr. Macgregor, of Ferintosh, and from that time to this a daily prayer meeting in summer and autumn has been regularly held. The crowded services on Sabbath evenings, with many round the door and windows, will never be forgotten. It was generally my privilege when able to be in the country to lead the singing to the old Scottish psalm tunes, and no congregational singing has ever rung out more splendidly than on these occasions.

The spiritual value of the daily meeting to many in all parts of Scotland, and I may say to not a few in other parts of the world, it is impossible to exaggerate. It was common to have from 200 to 300 present every forenoon, and to myself and my family, and to many we have known, this house has been a place of untold blessing and refreshment. I have not been accustomed to speak much about it, my life having been a very full one in the great metropolis; but, brethren, the shadows are lengthening, and I have thought you would not feel it to be unsuitable if I took this opportunity of referring to earlier days in Strathpeffer.

I always considered the meeting house as a memorial of our little son, John Mackay.

His friend, Mr. Colin Brown, happened to be spending some time in Strathpeffer during the summer of 1886. In a letter, dated October 8, he describes a conversation held at the dinner-table of his hotel one Sunday:—

Some one remarked upon the very satisfactory service

in the hall [meeting house], and the crowded audience. The music was then referred to as being quite uncommon, it was so solemn, and every one joined in the singing. Then the precentor came up for criticism. Who could he be? He did not look like an ordinary countryman. He had no great voice, but he sung so earnestly; his whole heart was in it, and every one joined in the fine old tunes. The conclusion come to was that he was no ordinary precentor. I was much amused, but said nothing. At last a happy thought occurred to one of the party. "Mr. Brown, you know who he is, for he spent an hour with you last evening, and came to take you to the church this forenoon." To this appeal I replied that I had known him long. I gave no name nor any particulars, but described the precentor as a London merchant of the first rank, a deputy lieutenant of the city of London, etc., etc.

The following letter was written in acknowledgment of the receipt of an illuminated address sent to him by many friends in the district of Strathpeffer:—

3 Lombard Street London

September 17th 1889

Will you accept for yourself, and convey to the other friends who have done me the great honour to join in the beautiful address, my most grateful thanks for the kindness shown me?

I value the address very highly, but you express in too flattering terms your appreciation of some services I have been enabled to render to the people of Strathpeffer. It has been entirely a labour of love.

In deciding many years ago to secure a small holding

in your district, I am free to acknowledge that what was uppermost in my mind was the desire to be made, in some humble measure, a blessing to the people, whom I had learned to love in early life.

It has been a regret and disappointment to me that circumstances have not admitted of my residing for longer periods in the country, particularly during recent years. But it has often cheered and refreshed me in my heavy engagements here, to learn that means of grace provided at Strathpeffer have proved a comfort and blessing to visitors from other parts of Scotland, and even from distant parts of the world. And for that, as well as for any enjoyment of these privileges which may have been experienced by yourselves and your families, I am indeed profoundly thankful.

Strathpeffer, with its healing waters and its delicious and unrivalled climate, is becoming the resort of increasing

omitted to mention. Mr. Moody was not feeling well after a stormy voyage round the coast from Wick, and whenever he saw Mr. Matheson he said to him, "You will preach for me to-night." Mr. Matheson pleaded that preaching was not his work, and also that there was no time to prepare. Mr. Moody won the day, as he usually did, and Mr. Matheson gave the address in that large and crowded church. Unwittingly, he selected as his subject one of Mr. Moody's special themes. The following letter, received long afterwards, shows it was not in vain :—

To his wife

1897

I had a letter last night from Major Whittle, in which he says, "I have just come from Caithness, where a good work is going on at Thurso. I met there a man who was converted by an address you gave in 1874, in Dr. Taylor's church, one night when you and Dr. Ross Taylor had to take Mr. Moody's place." This is touching after twenty-three years. I felt very helpless. The subject was the excuses in Luke xiv.

During the last few years of the life of his uncle, Sir James Matheson, the proprietor of the Lews, who died in 1879, Mr. Matheson acted as his commissioner, and managed the business of that property.

In March, 1878, he was invited to preside in Glasgow over a meeting of the Lews Association there. In the course of his speech he said :—

HUGH M. MATHESON

I was told that I should meet a large number of Lews ople, and that was a decided attraction. We have it on ellent authority that the best thing the island produces "good girls and strong men," and that man would be ill please who could wish for better company. Then shall ell you a little secret, that my heart warms to the High- ds? There is not a drop of blood in my veins that is Highland; and it is matter of great thankfulness to that my family take after me in their affection for the rth. I am very sure that you who hail from the Lews ve left a pretty big part of your heart there; and, in te of the disadvantages under which many of the in- bitants labour, you have a warm recollection of your nd homes, and a longing desire to do some good to se you have left behind. This I take to be the meaning the Lews Association. You may come here without nds; but there is one resource that I most earnestly

blazing fire on the hearth, and I have often seen hanging over it a splendid pot of potatoes, both fire and potatoes such as our London poor can never dream of. But unquestionably there are other sides to the picture.

The following characteristic extract from a letter written by an evangelist in the Lews indicates how far Mr. Matheson's influence extended :—

February 1898

. . . He was the means of sending me to the Western Isles to labour in the Lord's vineyard, leaving home and all friends near and dear to me thirty-three years ago, and now at the age of fifty-seven years I am over almost all the Western Isles, from the Island of Arran in the south, to the Island of St. Kilda in the north, trying in His Holy Name to help the body as well as the soul, and the Lord has greatly blessed my humble labour, as the fruit is now easily seen over all my journeys ; and in the Lord's hands the worthy Mr. H. M. Matheson was the means of all this glorious work amongst the very poorest, sick and dying, over the Western Isles, and he told me in the castle, as long as he would be in the world he would with pleasure help me and my work. And so he did to the end. And now I am at or near the end of my journey left alone, as Elisha was.

The Rev. J. Calder McPhail, D.D., has kindly contributed the following account of Mr. Matheson's interest in the Scheme of Grammar School Bursaries for Gaelic-speaking young men :—

The object of that scheme is to help young

desirous of entering the university to prepare
nselves for doing so with advantage by studying
one or two sessions at a grammar school in a
ersity town. The scheme is now thirty years
but long before it was started I had good
on to know how deep was Mr. Matheson's con-
for whatever could promote the social and
tual welfare of the population of the Highlands
Islands. As soon as this scheme was brought
r his notice, he saw the advantages which it
ned to confer on the youth of the Highlands;
with characteristic generosity he undertook to
four bursaries annually for some years, two of
four being specially intended for young men
the island of Lewis. It is needless to say that
generosity was most encouraging, and stimulated

and again to London to endeavour to get the Education Department to provide for teaching the reading of Gaelic in the Board Schools, where Gaelic was the spoken language of the people. The directors of the Society were fully alive to the importance of an English education, and to the great disadvantage under which all must labour in this country who do not understand that language. They therefore fully sympathized with all the efforts that could be made to give the Highland people the best English education they were capable of receiving. But they urged that so long as there were thousands of Gaelic-speaking children who understood English very imperfectly, these should be taught in the public schools to read their mother-tongue. Their object in urging this was simply to secure that such children should be able, when they left school, to read the Word of God in the language they best understood. With that object Mr. Matheson heartily sympathized ; and on more than one occasion he gave the weight of his great influence to the Society's deputations by accompanying them in their visits to the Education Department. It is satisfactory to think, now that the Gaelic School Society has been dissolved, that grants for passes in Gaelic reading may be obtained from the funds of the Trust for Education in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. Wherever Gaelic is still the spoken language of the people, the children are taught in the public schools to read the Holy Scriptures in their own tongue ;

and the way to the university is now open to every Gaelic-speaking youth of good principles and exceptional ability.

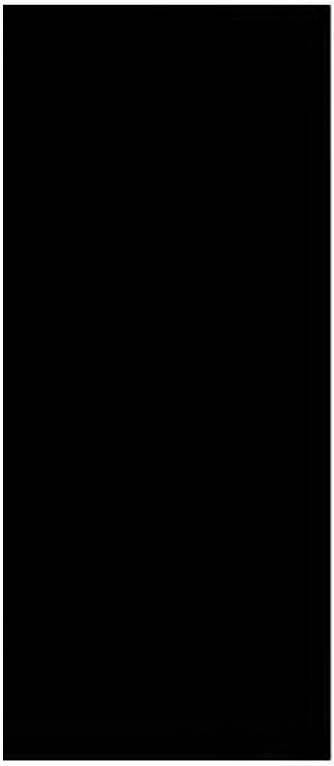
The Inverness branch of the Young Men's Christian Association chose Mr. Matheson as their president. He was not often able to meet with them during his all too brief holidays in Strathpeffer; but he was present at the opening of their new rooms, July 12, 1869, presided at the social meeting, declared the rooms open, congratulated the Inverness people on having such a good house, and expressed his sympathy with the work of the Y.M.C.A. They had a series of evangelistic meetings at the same time, and Mr. Matheson took part in them. The late Dr. Donald Fraser told Mr. James E. Mathieson, a long time ago, that as that opening meeting was dispersing one man was overheard saying to another, with reference to the chairman: "Yon's a man! He's gotten a' the ten commandments written on his face."

At a Christian conference held in Inverness in August, 1876, Mr. Matheson presided for two hours, the subject being "The Spread of the Gospel."

The county of Sutherland always held a very warm corner of his heart; and, especially during the last few years of his life, he occasionally made a tour among its hills and lochs, and visited the scenes of his father's boyhood by Loch Shin, and other places connected with his ancestors.

During one of these tours, taken with his wife in

ELSICK, STRATHPEFFER.



September, 1893, he consented to give an address on a Sabbath evening at Scourie, where, at that time, there was seldom any preaching in English. This was much appreciated by the people who gathered in the school-house. During his address he said :—

We should thank God that this gospel of His grace has been faithfully preached for so many years in this dear land of Sutherland—dear to you, I cannot doubt, and very dear to me because of ancestors who loved the truth of God, and some of whom preached in it the doctrines of grace, Christ and Him crucified, and had many fruits among the people.

In the autumn of 1896 he made his last tour of a few days in Sutherland. He had gone to Lairg to see Achany, and was seized with a desire "to cross these hills once more," evidently feeling it was for the last time.

The following letter to Mrs. Matheson, from a Highland cousin, will be read with interest in this connection :—

. . . Mr. Matheson and his younger brother frequently spent a portion of their holidays in youthful days at Keoldale, when they came under the influence of my revered grandmother, Mrs. Mackay Scobie, who lived to make others happy, and shed over all the bright attractiveness of her unique Christian character.

As illustrating Mr. Matheson's tender and almost womanly sympathy in times of trouble, my mother could never forget how, on meeting him after the death of her

first-born baby boy, Mr. Matheson, who had nursed and played with the child some months before, could not control his feelings, and wept as if the little one had been his own. He must then have been a youth of about nineteen or twenty.

You know he could be stern when needful; but if this side of his character was ever discussed in my mother's hearing she could not abide it, and would always maintain that he was the man of tenderest sympathy she had ever known.

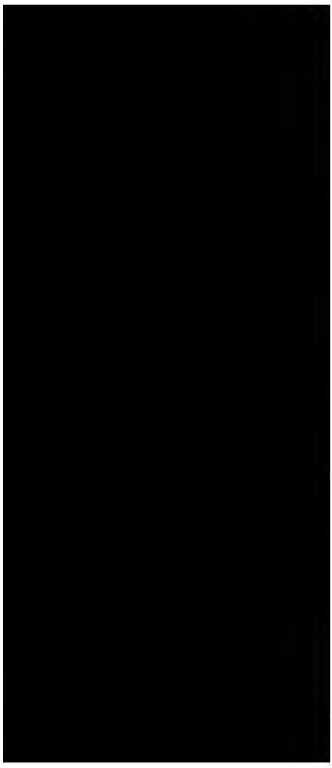
I cannot help thinking that Mr. Matheson had always a great attractiveness in the eyes of children. It was certainly so in my own case. I must have been six or seven years old when I first remember seeing him, though he must have seen me at an earlier stage. We then lived at Invercharron. I fancy it must have been about 1850 or a year earlier. I was a very shy and sensitive child, and not

ing, for I do not think his relationship to my mother was nearer than cousin in the fourth degree, yet in writing to her he almost always subscribed himself as a cousin. He was present at the marriage of my parents, and, as indicating the same sentiment, I have heard my mother say that some prominent article of dress worn by him on the occasion was made of Mackay tartan.

Writing of the marriage of my parents reminds me of my own happy entrance on the wedded state, and how Mr. Matheson, at no small inconvenience to himself, and at the cost of a night journey from Liverpool, acted the part of a true kinsman, when, through unavoidable circumstances, none of my own near relations, save one of my brothers, could be present.

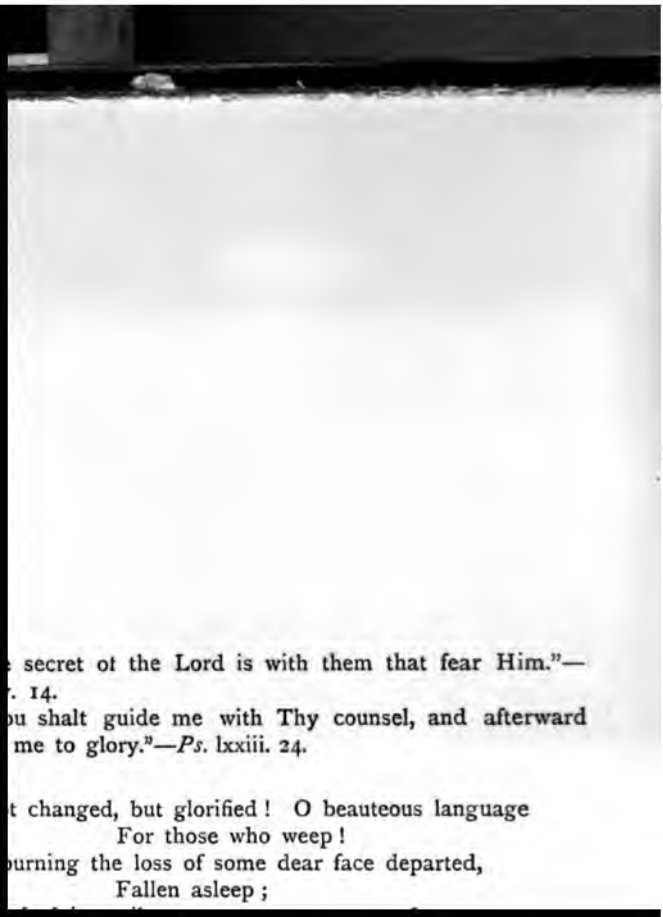
From a friend

Heredity is in these days throwing a mantle of charity over failings of every degree. May we reverse the process and find that he served himself heir to all that was highest and best in Scottish tradition? He was proud of his Highland ancestry, and might have boasted that the best blood in the Highlands flowed in his veins. This strong Celtic strain and the mystic element that goes with it were not enfeebled by his removal to the south, but amid the new surroundings developed into the beautiful attractive personality that moved so freely out and in among us.



CHAPTER X

The Close



secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him."—
. 14.
ou shalt guide me with Thy counsel, and afterward
me to glory."—*Ps.* lxxiii. 24.

t changed, but glorified! O beauteous language
For those who weep!
urning the loss of some dear face departed,
Fallen asleep;

CHAPTER X

The Close

IT was remarkable, during the last few months of 1897, what an impression Mr. Matheson had and gave of being near the end of his earthly life. His foresight, always a prominent feature of his character might account for this; but one friend suggested as the reason the first text which heads this chapter, and no doubt it was so. Although he was then seventy-six, there were no signs of age about him; he remained fresh, erect, buoyant to the last—only during those last months those who knew him best detected a weariness at the end of the day, and he attended few evening meetings.

His last visit to his Highland home was in August of that year. It was observed that, though still very active, his walks were shorter than formerly and caused more fatigue; and yet every one thought him looking so young and well. A number of friends were staying at Elsick while he was there, to whom he greatly enjoyed showing the beauties of the district in drives and walks.

The Rolland Rainys, his married daughter and her family, and his son Hugh were staying at Little Scat-

ell, and he went there several times to spend the ay. The grandchildren were always a great delight him. His last visit there was towards the end August, when he drove over with a party to meet rincipal and Mrs. Rainy, who were there on a visit. e took Dr. Rainy up the steep climb to Glen arksie Farm to call on the family there in the urse of the day.

The Free Church minister of Strathpeffer, Mr. hnstone, afterwards thus spoke of him:—

His regular attendance at the daily prayer meeting, and e beautiful prayers which he offered to God in the meet- g house, revealed a Christian character of no ordinary nd. The spirituality, fervency, and sympathy of his ayers were remarked upon by the many visitors who tended our prayer meetings, and also the enthusiastic

Day, 1898, he was taken ill with an attack of influenza, which kept him from business for about ten days, and weakened him considerably. He was, however, able to return to the city on January 12th, and on Monday, 17th, attended one of the Rev. John McNeill's meetings in the City Temple.

On Friday, January 21st, he felt unwell while walking down to the Hampstead Heath Station, and hailed a passing cab, but went on into town, and did one more hard day's work in the familiar room at Lombard Street, which was to see him no more. He was looking very weary on his return home, and spent a quiet evening. The next day, Saturday, 22nd, he came downstairs to breakfast at eight as usual, and in the afternoon drove down to Friedenheim, the Home for the Dying, near the Swiss Cottage, to take his place as chairman of Miss Davidson's Council of Management. Miss Davidson was in Scotland at the time, and he had written begging her not to hurry back, saying that he would attend to her meeting, and see that all she wished was carried out. It was his last piece of work for the Master whom he had served so long, and who was about to call him home to rest. The other gentlemen on the council that day thought him looking so well that they elected him chairman for another year. He had already occupied that position for two years, and had greatly helped Miss Davidson in her work.

That evening he was with us as usual, retired to rest

ten o'clock according to his habit, and passed comfortable night. At 7 a.m. on Sabbath morning rose, but on reaching his dressing-room was seized th severe pain. He returned to bed, and asked at the doctor might be sent for at once. He ffered agonies that day and the next, and said to e that he had never had anything like this before, d that we must be prepared. That Sabbath even- g we all gathered round his bed, and he said a few rewell words, ending with, " It's all well; it's been well for sixty years—1839. Good-night; we'll eet in the morning." Next day he took leave of s brother Donald and of the little grandchildren d saw Mr. Gillies.

For a fortnight he was tenderly nursed; and the in moderated, although it did not entirely leave

his regret, and instructing him to secure some one else. This meeting, when it met, sent a vote of sympathy to him, which touched him very much. There were no further engagements noted in his diary.

Traces of his old humour were constantly appearing during his illness. He told us, after drinking some of the boiled water prescribed by the doctor, that it was very insipid, and that he thought microbes must be tasty!

On Thursday, February 3rd, we reminded him that the Advisory Committee of the Foreign Missions was to meet that afternoon. He at once said he had some letters he should like to send, with his prepared agenda. Mary found these, and wrote from his dictation some additional notes on various subjects, for Mr. Connell's guidance. We found that the committee had been postponed till next day. When he learned this he desired us to send also his minute-book, with his minutes fully written up. So that meeting of committee was carried out according to his own arrangements in every detail.

When again the Friday mail day came round he asked Mary to write again to the missionaries "a single line," and not to make the account too hopeful.

On Sabbath, February 6th, he was very low, and wished to speak to Dr. Heath Strange alone—who had been his medical attendant for many years. He told him he was very thankful to have been spared to see so many of his interests so far advanced, but

t now he felt the end was drawing near. A little
r he called me and said, "I want you to know
t it is solid ground under my feet in the valley."
That afternoon there was a consultation, and the
tors agreed that there was still no reason why he
uld not recover, although very ill.
On Monday, 7th, he seemed a little brighter and
e comfortable. That afternoon Mr. Gillies saw
for a few minutes. His son Hugh also sat with
for some time. In the evening he thanked Nurse
y for the beautiful way in which she had done
work. She said she had only done her duty.
said, "A great deal more than your duty." A
e later he told her that the pain was all gone, and
was going to have a sleep. He slept. At 1.30
he looked up suddenly, then closed his eyes,

not bear to say farewell; "as the Lord thy God liveth, and as thy soul liveth, we will not leave thee." Rather we will cleave to the memory of one so loved, so blessed, and trust to be borne by it far beyond ourselves, into that larger life he lived among us for others and for God.

On Saturday, February 12th, his body was laid to rest in the Highgate Cemetery, beside his baby boy and his sister Isabella.

There was a short service at Heathlands for relatives and friends, who gathered there before they started for Highgate. This was conducted by the Rev. J. R. Gillies, of Hampstead, and the Rev. Donald Matheson, of Putney, his nephew. There was another service in the Presbyterian Church at Highgate, where a very large congregation assembled. Besides relatives, there were present many business men from the city, with representatives from the Presbyteries of the Church, from his own Foreign Missions Committee and many other missionary societies, and from the Y.M.C.A., the British and Foreign Bible Society, etc., etc.

This service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Dykes, Principal of the Presbyterian College in London; Principal Rainy, of Edinburgh; and the Rev. Alexander Connell, of Regent Square Presbyterian Church. It was so impressive that many said they would never forget it, and yet it hardly seemed like a funeral service, because of the tone of triumph and victory. Every one joined in singing the familiar words of

e 23rd and 121st Psalms and 2nd Paraphrase to e grand old tunes *he* loved so much. A number beautiful wreaths were placed on tables on either de of the coffin, accompanied by loving words. One heather, "A bit from the land he loved"; a harp om the Central Y.M.C.A.; palm branches from the Vomen's Missionary Association; an anchor from e Hampstead branch of the Women's Total Abinence Union; violets forming the letters of "The iddle Kingdom" from Dr. Barbour's children; "A ibute of love and esteem from the Hakka Mission, whom he is deeply and sincerely mourned," was wreath of white and yellow flowers, white being the gn of Chinese mourning, and yellow the Chinese perial colour. Other wreaths from the minister d Free Church congregation, in Strathpeffer; the aff at 3, Lombard Street, and 23, Cornhill; the

Jeffrey, for the members of the company's staff and their families, and a service in Spanish for one of the village congregations near Rio Tinto, with whom Mr. Matheson had worshipped a few months before. It was conducted by the missionary teacher, Mr. McCarthy.

In China, at Swatow, the service was in Chinese, conducted by the Rev. H. L. Mackenzie, the Rev. J. C. Gibson, the Rev. C. Campbell Brown, Dr. Lyall, and a native pastor.

These gatherings of mourners in different parts of the world that day, and others of which we may not have heard, prove what a friend expressed in her letter of sympathy, "Europe and Asia have lost *not* the influence, but the personality of one of their best friends, but I like most to think that there is a prince and a great man *exalted* this day."

"We bless Thee for the quiet rest
Thy servant taketh now;
We bless Thee for his blessedness,
And for his crownèd brow:
For every weary step he trod
In faithful following Thee;
And for the good fight foughten well,
And closed right valiantly."
—(*Peden at Cameron's grave.*)

Out of a large number of affectionate and appreciative tributes, I have allowed myself to select the following from friends in various parts of the world, and very various social positions:—

HUGH M. MATHESON

To MRS. MATHESON

From HON. JAMES BALFOUR

MELBOURNE *February 15th* 1898

. What a memory Mr. Matheson has left behind —the true friend and counsellor, the generous giver good causes, the city merchant whose name was mbol of honour and truth, the representative man English Presbyterian Church and the strength of eign missions; and to all who knew him well, the le, self-denying, faithful servant of Christ, ever seeking ow in His steps. To his own family he was every- —their stay and strength.

To the same

From R. F. HORTON, D.D.

CHESILS, HAMPSTEAD *February 11th* 1898

. I feel as if the truest and strongest man in our

gations were in question. All honoured and trusted Mr. Matheson.

It is a long way to look back, but I recall an evening in Mr. Burns' days, when you were from home, and he was staying in Mr. Burns' house on the Mount; and Mr. John Matheson was staying there with him, and supplying the pulpit, Mr. Burns being away in his last illness; and Mr. Matheson asked me up to spend an hour with him and the minister. What a happy and hallowed hour it was! I was quite a young fellow, and the two older men were so gracious and so genial, and let me talk freely; and it attached me to them both for all the years that followed. It was but a sample of Mr. Matheson's way with others; and I do not know a man in all Hampstead who will be so much missed and mourned as he.

To MISS MATHESON

From the REV. ROBERT TAYLOR

CANNES, FRANCE *February 12th* 1898

. . . What a sense of desolation I had when I heard he had left us! The dear family, the Church, the China Mission! Well may they make great lamentation over him! It is true the Master lives; and the bereaved Church and mission will, I trust, by this bereavement be drawn closer to Him, and your dear home circle will at this sad time nestle under the wings of the Father everlasting.

I don't expect (is it wrong to say I scarcely desire?) to see another altogether like him. There are some blanks which are never filled; and there are some sorrows which, however soothed and softened by time and grace, will always haunt the heart, and sometimes moisten the eye, till God Himself shall wipe away all tears.

HUGH M. MATHESON

ould have been a kind of consolation to have joined
eat gathering that to-day will carry him to his burial—
ing his death, blessing his memory, and praying that
antle may fall on many of those who are saying in
nearts, "My father, my father: the chariots of Israe
he horsemen thereof."

m reminded of a beautiful passage in which your
s friend, James Hamilton (they are re-united now),
the loss of a man who has filled a great place in
nurch of Christ to a great forest tree. When it falls
es a great blank; and though the grass grows green
he torn ground, and surrounding trees extend their
nes and other trees are planted, a vacant space re-
—it may be for a generation—to bear witness to the
ree that once filled it. Yes, some blanks are never
filled, at least in the hearts that must cherish the dear
ry of the departed whom they admired and loved.

To the same

From DR. WILLIS NORTON WITNEY (son-in-law of Mr. Braithwaite)

3 AVICHO AKASAKA, TOKIO *March 6th* 1898

We were all very much pained to hear of the death of Mr. Matheson, and feel deep sympathy with you and your family in the loss you have sustained.

His kindness and yours, during the twenty years nearly past of our acquaintance, has laid us under deep obligation to you both. The kind assistance we received when we first visited England as a family, and the interest taken in us afterwards, will never be forgotten. Your taking the place of my father and mother at our wedding, and the substantial help given the hospital built to carry on the work my mother so much desired to see begun, have been greatly appreciated, and we trust have not been without results, although we feel that we have come very far short of realizing all that might be expected of us.

Mr. Matheson's death will be felt by many in Japan, more than perhaps you may hear of. Men who owe their start in the right direction in life to his assistance and guidance are now in high positions in this country, some guiding the affairs of this great nation. That this influence was that of an earnest, God-fearing man must give it a place in the powers which have impelled Japan in the course she has so wisely (except in the matter of war) taken.

Few men have exerted so wide an influence for good while engaged in the commerce of the world with all its temptations to forget the Lord in the midst of pressing cares.

May the Lord bless and comfort you and yours.

HUGH M. MATHESON

To the same

rom the Rev. John Mackay *late of Cromarty*

sad news which reached us the other day from your
orrowing home cast a deep shadow of gloom over
Highlands, where the name of Mr. Matheson, of
was so well known and so truly beloved. I do not
ber a removal that was more widely sorrowed for in
rth. But well do I know, and greatly do I rejoice
w, that what soothes your pained heart to-day is the
nce that your loss is the unspeakable gain of him,
hile respected as few men in his generation have
and loved by a great multitude of all ranks and
from the Hebrides to the heart of China, was more
than to any one except the glorious One who has
him in first. . . .

To M. MATHESON

From a Highland evangelist

. . . At Stornoway to-day, as I was going, about 11 a.m., the flag was put up on the Castle half up. At once I said, "The noble friend of the poor is away home to glory," and before I got to the town scores of flags were put half up over all the town, also on ships, and people mourning everywhere. I could not make my business in town, and came to write you.

To MRS. MATHESON

From a lady friend

What a dear friend we have lost . . . and the number of those who will feel the same is countless. To my husband he has always been the type of all that was wisest and holiest and most reliable in mankind. I always have told him that what your husband bade him do he would do without a moment's hesitation.

To the same

From a tribute by a friend

. . . As if the public position were not sufficient, he took up many private burdens—the care of many orphaned children connected with the Church and Mission. How he found the leisure to attend to them, how he husbanded their slender resources, how he guided them till able to stand alone, only few knew. When the day was far spent, his steps turned homewards. Peace and restfulness welcomed him at the threshold, and the bow long stretched was now unstrung. Only those who have enjoyed the hospitality of that home know the fund of quiet humour that underlay the calm, dignified exterior. Heathlands

HUGH M. MATHESON

s well known in South China as it is in London, so y of our missionaries going and returning have found r that roof the kindliest consideration for themselves the highest appreciation of their work.

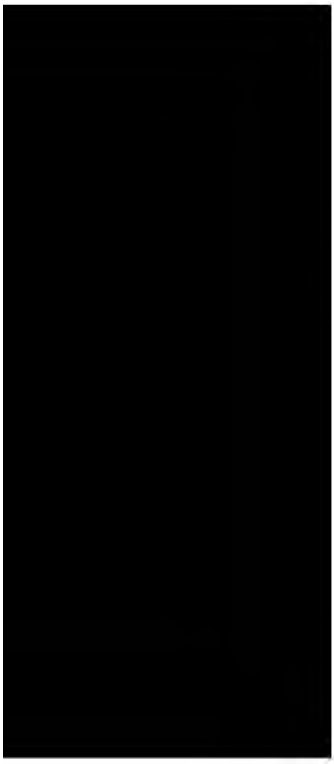
To the same
From I. McF.

o you he will never seem what is called *dead*. His tiful smile and that tender and lovely look in his eyes ever stay with you, and can never leave him. No er could ever catch it or transfer it to canvas.

To M. Matheson
From C. M.

here are few who leave so blessed a memory on earth our father. It is such lives as his that lead men's souls gher things. . . . The remembrance of his kind, , gentle face—the nobility of every line of it—the

Appendices



APPENDIX I

Jubilee Tributes, 1895

1. Translation of Letter from Swatow Presbytery China, on the occasion of Mr. Matheson's Jubilee as an Office-bearer, 1895.

PEACE and happiness to his excellency the Elder Matheson, convener of the Foreign Missions Committee of the Presbyterian Church of England.

We respectfully state that our Presbytery recently heard that the Elder has been an office-bearer for fifty years in the Presbyterian Church of England, which has had a mission to China for nearly fifty years, and that the whole Church regarded it as indeed a happy thing that for so long a period she has had his faithful and diligent service even to the time of his old age.

The Church unanimously, and with reverential regard, decided to express her congratulations, to make known her admiration for the Elder, and give him her blessing. Thereupon the learned brethren in England, in choice words, clear and bright, mutually prolonging their notes of praise in honour of the Elder and his great renown, congratulated him.

Our small Church, having experienced the abundant grace of the Synod, has long had grateful experience of the Elder's excellent kindness, and of his compassion for those in darkness, which led him to illumine our middle kingdom with the true light, and not to neglect the stupid and obstinate.

The sound of the Gospel reached even to Swatow; the missionaries have for thirty or forty years wrought with united heart and strength, the believing disciples have travelled and hasted hither and thither throughout a region of over 200 miles, until at length men and women, old and young, have rejoiced together because of the new life [literally, the regeneration], and even men generally have been moved by the report thereof to arise and inquire.

We having experienced in such abundance the Elder's kindness and favour, how can we alone be behind others in his praise?

Having exercised his office in many affairs of great importance during these fifty years, and thereby given excellent help to the Church without stint, we too, having regard to this prolonged service from its beginning till now, congratulate the Elder and pray God to bless him.

Long ago he came to China, being commissioned to decide as to places for commerce; he then also gave his mind to the subject of mission work. It is not easy to find among merchants those who also make it their business to spread the Gospel. But when he saw that the buying and selling of opium, a thing deeply injurious to men, was part of the commerce, he retired from the business and returned to his native land, and more earnestly than ever engaged in the work of sending the Gospel to China—truly he excels among men!

Thus, then, on the Elder's consulting [*i.e.*, with the Church at home] as to where the mission should be established, Amoy, Swatow, and Formosa were the places chosen. His word was of great weight, and men trusted and had respect to it; and so the mission became an accomplished fact, and missionaries the more gladly went abroad, and the Christians [at home] the more readily opened their purses.

The Church, perceiving that the Elder exercised his office

without reproach, that he displayed remarkable efficiency, that he was faithful and diligent, and fit therefore to be entrusted with a more onerous duty, unanimously appointed him to be treasurer of the Foreign Missions Committee. From this time he more strenuously than ever manifested his faithfulness and diligence; late and early giving himself no rest, that the accounts of the mission might be kept with the utmost accuracy.

The whole Church truly had great confidence in him, regarding him as a steward who, in due season, gives meat to his household, and trains and nourishes them without failure.

Thereafter the Church, considering that the Elder had for twenty years been the treasurer of the Foreign Missions Committee with unfailing accuracy, and holding that he who had been faithful in that which was least would be faithful also in much, unanimously chose him to be convener of that committee.

Being invested with this office, the Elder exerted himself with increasing zeal and care, making manifest his sympathy with the love of Christ in the salvation of men, and following the example of Paul in conducting affairs with special care and diligence. His heart longed for the speedy deliverance of men from the paths of error, and their entrance into the region of love and everlasting life. Thus by his personal influence he led many to give abundantly of their means, that the Gospel might be spread abroad. From day to day, month after month, year by year, the Elder has been devoted with unremitting exertion to these great matters, and so his gracious influence has reached to many thousands of men, and the fruit of his labours will descend to a hundred generations.

To compare him with the man who is able merely to publish a book, or with him who can invent a machine, or bring into subjection a territory, or help in bringing one

affair to a conclusion, why, his labours and thoughtfulness and wisdom far excel theirs, extending above and beyond them in height and breadth. Very many men indeed have taken part in proclaiming the Gospel in the middle kingdom and in Western lands; but many cannot be found who, like the Elder, have exercised office without reproach, from first to last, for fifty years.

We, inferior and orphan-like and apart [*i.e.*, from the sources of knowledge and culture], and coming but lately to the knowledge of the truth, yet having obtained the abundant grace of the Lord, have ventured to accept office in the Church. We now call to mind the words of consolation which the Elder formerly wrote, and our hearts turn to him as the sunflower to the sun. Beholding his labours and achievements, we, ashamed of our inferiority, look from afar at his good example, and unite in congratulating him on the happy accomplishment of his jubilee. We are reminded of the words of praise spoken to Peter the Rock, and of the blessed reward bestowed by the King of Righteousness; and, in conclusion, we earnestly hope that the Elder may enjoy a venerable old age like that of John.

Thus does our Presbytery desire and hope on his behalf, and we respectfully beg him graciously to receive our congratulations.

This letter of congratulation is sent on behalf of the Tie-Hui [*i.e.*, Swatow] Presbytery by—

LAN CHEK-IONG, *Moderator.*
KUAN CHIP-SENG, *Senior Clerk.*
NG SIU-TENG, *Junior Clerk.*
KIM HU-ZU, *Senior Missionary.*

H.I.M. Kuang-su, 21st year, 6th month, 1st day (July 22, 1895).

2. From Presbyteries of London, North and South, Hugh M. Matheson, Esq.

Dear and Honoured Sir,—

Your brethren in the two Presbyteries of London, North and South, embrace the opportunity presented by your completion of fifty years of unbroken service as an office-bearer of the Church to approach you with the expression of affectionate and fraternal regard.

We congratulate you, sir, on the unusually long term through which the Divine goodness has permitted you to minister, first for four years as a deacon, and then for forty-six years as an elder, in the work and kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The last half-century has witnessed the resuscitation and the consolidation of a Presbyterian Church in England. Of all the generous and large-hearted elders to whom that result has been greatly due, none has laboured with more devotion than yourself, none probably for a longer period.

There is scarcely a department of our Church's activity which does not bear traces of your helpful interest. One of her noblest and most fruitful enterprises, her mission in China, has been aided from the first, and for many years past has been developed and moulded, by your sagacious oversight.

Amid the urgent pressure of business in the city of London, and the ceaseless demands which its Christian philanthropy makes upon a citizen so prominent and public-spirited as you have been, you have never grudged either time or labour to the affairs of the Presbytery where you have for long been a foremost and trusted counsellor.

By these and many similar services, by uniform courtesy and brotherhood, by wisdom enriched through long experience, by unfailing loyalty to the principles of our beloved Church, you have laid all your brethren under the deepest obligations.

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n consenting to sit for the portrait to-day unveiled, by
ch we would fain preserve for our successors at once
memory and the inspiration of your career as a pres-
er, you have added yet another kindness which calls for
eful recognition.

With humble prayer to Almighty God that He would
e your remaining years peaceful and bright with His
favour, we beg to subscribe ourselves, dear Mr. Mathe-
, yours with the utmost esteem and gratitude,

PETER CARMICHAEL,
Moderator of the Presbytery of London North.
J. HEAD THOMSON,
Moderator of the Presbytery of London South.
WILLIAM BALLANTYNE,
Clerk of the Presbyteries of London North and London South.

Committee of the Presbytery of London North :—
GEORGE B. BRUCE, *Convener.*
J. OSWALD DYKES, etc., etc.

We, the minister, office-bearers, and members of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hampstead, very heartily congratulate you on the attainment of your jubilee as an office-bearer in our English Presbyterian Church.

While joining in the more general expression of regard initiated by the London Presbyteries, we take this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the special obligation under which you have laid us as a congregation from the beginning, and during the long term of years you have worshipped with us. For your generous support and wise counsel we are deeply grateful, and still more would we thank God for the helpful and inspiring example of your self-denying and consistent Christian life. We pray that God may long spare you and make you a blessing to His Church and to this congregation.

[Here follow signatures.]

APPENDIX II

Tributes at his Death, 1898

1. Presbytery of London North

happened that on the very day that Mr. Matheson was taken from us the Presbytery of on North met at Marylebone for their ordinary ess, and thereafter for the induction of the Rev. ge Hanson. An extract from the minutes of neeting of his own Presbytery follows :—

and Sir G. B. Bruce be appointed a committee to draw up a suitable memorial minute for insertion in the Presbytery's records, and that a copy thereof, with a letter of sympathy in the name of the Presbytery, be sent to the widow and family of Mr. Matheson.

The minute is as follows :—

The Presbytery has heard with feelings of profound grief that it has pleased God to remove from the fellowship of the Church on earth their venerable and beloved father in the eldership, Mr. Hugh M. Matheson. A few years ago the Presbytery united to congratulate Mr. Matheson on the completion of fifty years of service in that office. During all that long period he has had a seat in this Court, has been assiduous in his attendance on its meetings, and has taken a foremost part in its deliberations and decisions. By his great experience and wisdom, by his high character for probity, by his uniform courtesy and unfailing tact, above all by his unwavering attachment to the cause of Christ and to the interests of this Church, he has endeared himself to his brethren, won in an exceptional degree their admiration and confidence, and rendered to the Presbytery services the value of which can never be forgotten.

In common with the whole Presbyterian Church of England, this Presbytery recognises with affectionate gratitude the devotion of their departed friend through his long life to the progress of Presbyterianism in England, to all the enterprises of this Church, and above all to the cause of her missions in China, with the history of which his name will always continue to be associated.

But this Presbytery specially mourns a co-presbyter and brother deeply beloved, one of the last surviving links with a generation passed away, yet endearing himself to the younger ministers by many acts of kindness, by a gentle, humble demeanour, and by his ready sympathy with them in their difficulties.

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While meekly bowing to the will of our Heavenly Father, has by a swift and merciful stroke taken to Himself aged servant, the Presbytery would acknowledge with out thanksgiving how great a boon it pleased God to nt to His Church when He gave it the lifelong services one endowed with so many gifts of nature and of grace. The Presbytery unites to offer to the widow and family the departed the assurance of its deep and tender pathy under this bereavement; commends them with nest intercession to the God of all comfort, who alone bestow the spirit of consolation in this season of row; and directs that a copy of this minute be for-ded to Mrs. Matheson in testimony of the Presbytery's pectful sympathy.

2. PRESBYTERY OF NORTHUMBERLAND

Minutes of sympathy were sent to the family by rly all the Presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church

jubilee meeting of our China mission. But in every department of our Church's operations—the college, Church extension, home missionary congregations, sacred music and hymnology, young men's Sabbath morning fellowship and Christian endeavour societies, temperance —in all these he was earnestly engaged.

His singleness of aim, steadiness of effort, mingled caution and courage, firmness and tenderness, spiritual dignity and devoutness, range of view and persevering attention to detail, gave to all that he did in the Master's service a peculiar value.

He was a grand old Presbyterian elder and Catholic Reformed Church statesman, and his memory will long abide with us as an inspiration.

But his Christianity counted no movement for the progress of humanity foreign to it. His sympathies and labours ot Christian love extended to whatever makes for freedom, truth, righteousness, and peace.

The Presbytery, while affectionately recording its own sorrow, respectfully tenders its heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Matheson and family, and earnestly commends them to the God of all comfort and to the chief Shepherd. Nor can its minute fail to have inscribed in it devout gratitude to the Head of the Church for His good gift to us in Mr. Matheson, and for preserving him to us so long.

Extracted from the records of Northumberland Presbytery by William Rogerson, Clerk.

3. The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of England

The meeting of Synod in Liverpool in April, 1898, was full of pathos, from the opening words of the Rev. J. C. Gibson, of Swatow, before beginning his sermon in the place of the Rev. H. L. Mackenzie, the

g moderator. Almost every one who spoke, ver his subject, referred with feeling to the loss hurch had sustained—and yet the prevailing as not one of depression and sorrow, but rather piration and thanksgiving. In the words of the ator, Mr. Hutton, "Let us pray that, although all see his face no more, his saintly memory till abide with us and continue to marshal us ds, and to encourage us in all the work that en given us to do."

en the Foreign Missions Report was presented Synod by the Rev. Alexander Connell on uesday evening the House was very full, and he read the minute about Mr. Matheson, in- g the sympathy of the Court with the family he mission, the whole House rose to their iving the vote in perfect silence. It was very n and impressive.

factors in the development of the Presbyterian Church of England.

He has throughout been a leader in every advance the Church has made. He was one of the founders of her Theological College; he promoted every effort for the extension and deepening of vital religion; he took an active part in establishing and maintaining the journals that have so long served the Church; he has been associated with each of the successive building funds which have aided the material development of the Church; he promoted the happy union of 1876, and the still wider union which issued in the alliance of Presbyterians throughout the world; he has been a wise counsellor in the courts and committees of the Church; and above all, by his unwearied labours in establishing and developing the Church's Foreign Missions, he has, without knowing it, built a lasting monument which will preserve his name and keep his memory fresh in all the future.

Every gift he possessed, and every power of mind and heart, were consecrated to the service of his Lord, and were at all times and for any purpose at the disposal of the Church with which he had been so long identified.

Extracted from the records of the Synod by W. M. Macphail, Junior Clerk.

4. Letter from Presbyterian Church of Wales

To Mrs. Matheson

From Rev. Lewis Ellis *of Rhyl, Wales*

February 18th 1898

On behalf of the Presbyterian Church of Wales, I now convey to you and your dear children the warm sympathy of our Church with you in your great sorrow and bereave-

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t by the death, or rather the departure, of your beloved
band, Mr. H. M. Matheson, from the visible circles
h he occupied with such love and distinction to the
sed and eternal rest which he will now enjoy in the
ence of the Lord. We always regarded him as a prince
ng his brethren. His high and noble Christian bear-
combined with wide and deep sympathies, as well as
purest of motives, and all tempered with a genial and
ly spiritual disposition, made him a great man in
l, whose memory will ever be beloved, and will always
source of inspiration to all that came in contact with

our loss is great, the loss of the Presbyterian Church
be great, and the loss to our own Church will be
rely felt, as his loving sympathies were so broad and
olic that he appeared to combine the interest of the
rch in Wales with those of China and the uttermost
of the world within his great and loving heart with
e and ease.

5. Free Church of Scotland

Mr. R. R. Simpson, in enclosing the following minute, wrote to Mrs. Matheson as follows :—

Edinburgh *June 3rd* 1898

The General Assembly of our Church, departing from their usual course, passed a minute expressing their sense of the loss sustained through the death of your husband, although an office-bearer in another Church. I enclose an extract of the deliverance.

At Edinburgh, the thirty-first day ot May, in the year 1898, which day the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland being met and duly constituted

Inter alia—

Mr. Hugh M. Matheson, London. The name of the late H. M. Matheson, Convener of the Foreign Missions Committee of the English Presbyterian Church, was so well known throughout the Free Church that it is fitting that his death be referred to here.

In early life he was an office-bearer in the Free Church. When he went to reside in London he at once took his place as one of that noble band of elders whose names became identified with the revival of Presbyterianism in England, and for fifty years he took a prominent part in the counsels of our sister Church.

He will always be remembered by his lifelong devotion to her China mission, which has, from the days of William Burns, been closely connected with the Free Church. He lived for China.

Extracted from the records of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland by R. R. Simpson, Dep. Cl. Eccl. Scot. Lib.

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COTTISH AUXILIARY OF THE CHINA MISSION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND

To MRS. MATHESON

EDINBURGH *March 7th* 1898

to some members of our committee Mr. Matheson loved and honoured friend, we feel that a letter of athy would more fittingly express our feelings at this than a formal minute. It seems out of place, in the of one the greatness of whose work lay partly in the unobtrusive way in which it was done, to try to put words all that we feel. And yet we cannot help saying he success which, under God's hand, has attended the on to China, a warm interest in which was the great between us and him, has been largely due to God's to us such a man as he was to be its head. He was he head so much as the busy brain, in touch with all of the missionary body, collecting all the information sary for a line of action, maturing it, weighing it by balanced judgment, and then carrying it out with an

7. The Church in China

In the course of his address at the funeral service at Highgate, Dr. Dykes, after speaking of Mr. Matheson's "unexampled, unrivalled service" to the Church's mission to China, said:—

We who mourn in this Church to-day but poorly represent the sadness which fills thousands of hearts in all our congregations over England. A deeper sadness still will possess, when the tidings spread, another far-off Church under other skies, that dear little daughter Church of ours, the offspring and reward of his consecration, which worships in a strange tongue, but loves the same Lord as we.

The extracts which follow will show how true these words were. They are only specimens. Almost every missionary wrote, and many of the native Church courts, and one or two individual Chinamen. Their sympathy was very tender and very sweet, for they all loved *him*.

a. Translation of a Letter from the Synod of Amoy

To Mrs. Matheson

A letter from the Synod of Amoy to Honourable Lady Matheson and the relatives of Elder Matheson, together with the members of the Presbyterian Church of England:—

When our Synod met it was with grief and sorrow we heard that the Lord had called Elder Matheson to leave this world to ascend to Heaven. We know how the venerable Elder Matheson, when a young man, was ordained an elder, and held that office for over fifty years, how he used

strength in the Lord's service, showed brotherly kind-
s, and worked most diligently in assisting the Presby-
an Church of England. Moreover, we have heard how,
ing those fifty years, he acted as treasurer of the Foreign
ssions Committee, year after year exerting himself in
nning and arranging for the spread of the Gospel and
salvation of men, always praying for the Church in
ina, and placing much of his money at the disposal of
Foreign Missions Committee; how for thirty-eight years
was convener of the Foreign Missions Committee,
eiving during that time strength and protection and help
n the Lord, so that he wisely conducted the affairs of
mission, the result of which has been that many churches
e been opened and many souls saved in the region
und Amoy; how he exerted himself not only to give the
spel to China, but also to Spain, India, his native land,
many other kingdoms. If by the death of Elder
theson his own Church has suffered a severe loss, and

much from him rejoice greatly too. Now, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, for their works follow with them."

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father o tender affection, comfort you all.

(Signed) HENRY THOMPSON,
Moderator.

b. TRANSLATION OF A LETTER FROM THE PRESBYTERY OF SWATOW

To MRS. MATHESON AND FAMILY

We all, having fellowship with you in the Lord as one family, having heard of the peaceful departure of the Elder Matheson, deeply mourn and grieve with you.

We call to remembrance that during his life the Elder directed the foreign mission of the Church for over fifty years. His control and direction of its affairs all proceeded from a loving heart set upon doing good to us in a far-off land by bringing us into the Kingdom of the Lord.

All his life long, with heart and strength, he tenderly helped in making us partakers of the Divine protection and nurture, so that we cannot with pen and ink fully declare his goodness.

And now they tell us that this good man has departed this life, and has entered upon the eternal enjoyment of the glory of the Lord. But his lofty and far-reaching work and virtues remain for ever, and do not fade away. We too look forward with hope to being for ever with him when we appear in the presence of the Lord.

We now, with reverence, write these few words to manifest our grateful remembrance of the Elder, and to convey comfort to you in your sorrowful thoughts.

We very respectfully wish you peace, and unite in the
be that you will graciously look upon this our letter.
From the Tie-Hui Presbytery, by the hands of

KIM HU-ZU, PHE^{N}KHI-HONG
KUAN CHIP-SENG, PHE^{N}SONG.

In the year of our Lord 1898, *i.e.* the 24th year of (the
mperor) Kuang-su, 3rd intercalary month, 16th day.

Translated by Kim Hu-zu, i.e. *H. L. Mackenzie.*

TRANSLATION OF A LETTER WRITTEN TO MRS. MATHESON BY PASTOR TAN SOAN-LENG, OF CHINCHEW

TO THE HONOURED LADY (MRS. MATHESON) AND HER FAMILY

We heard the other day that the Elder Matheson had
this world. Not only do you mourn because of this,
we all brethren and sisters in Chinchew and all who

A few days ago we received Dr. Barbour's letter, telling us of all the Elder Matheson did, and about his funeral. We were glad to hear from him, and the more glad that we heard you were being comforted in your sorrow. May you have strength to help the work of the Women's Missionary Association, that thus the women of our Middle Kingdom may receive great benefits. We heartily praise God, honoured lady, that in your family there are so many faithful servants of God. We greatly desire that you will still pray for us, that we may receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and may have many faithful workers among us also.

May the grace of our Lord preserve you.

This is our heart's desire.

From the Chinchew Church.

d. Minute from Mission Council of Formosa

The council desire to record their sorrow at the news they have received of the death of Mr. H. M. Matheson, Convener of the Foreign Missions Committee of our Church. From the very beginning of our mission Mr. Matheson has been connected with it, first as treasurer, and afterwards, for nearly thirty years, as Convener of committee. During all that time he has been largely helpful to the mission, as well by his liberality as by the time and attention he was willing to give in the midst of a more than usually busy life. He followed with much interest the steady development of the work, from its beginning to the position it occupies to-day. The wisdom with which the affairs of the mission have been guided, the liberality of sentiment with which proposals for new departures have been considered, and the harmonious relation of the home committee and the missionaries on the field, which is the admiration of so many outside, are all largely due to the clear judgment and kind thoughtfulness of our late Con-

...er. Those of us who were privileged to know him personally will always think of him, not only as the head of the ...mittee for management of business, but as a good friend ... took a warm and kindly interest in the welfare of the ...sionaries themselves.

We desire also to express our deep sympathy at this time ... his bereaved wife and family. We express thanks to ... for granting to our Church and mission the privilege ... long enjoying the benefits of his service and prayers. ... we pray God to raise up many to inherit the spirit ... walk in the steps of him who has been taken from us, ... our mission may continue to prosper in the future, ...withstanding the loss we have just sustained.

(Signed) THOMAS BARCLAY,
Chairman of Council.

...-nan-fu, March 2nd, 1898.

A MISSIONARY'S TRIBUTE TO HIS MEMORY (PUBLISHED ... "THE PRESBYTERIAN," FEBRUARY 17TH, 1898.

and sent to China since his death. He is China's typical evangelist. But the man whose impress rests most upon our mission on the foreign field is Dr. Carstairs Douglas, who was on the field what Mr. Matheson was in the home Church, shaping the policy and destiny of our mission, which has been so richly blessed with good workers both at home and abroad, so eminently efficient in its working methods, and so productive of lasting results in lives redeemed from heathenism and sin, and churches and schools going strongly and vigorously along the approved, because tried and tested, lines of self-reliance and self-support, with a native sense of personal responsibility recognised and encouraged, and due obligations cheerfully undertaken for Christ's sake.

Mr. Matheson's name will live enshrined in the history of our mission for ever, along with those of the devoted workers who have lived and died for the Chinese Church.

Those who had the privilege of his acquaintance as Convener will never forget his unfailing interest in them and their work, his wise generalship and ceaseless kindness and courtesy. Though a busy city man, he found time to acquaint himself with many details of the work, though his policy always was, "Choose your men carefully, trust them implicitly as to local needs, and generously support them by the Church's contributions, and pray for them and their converts and the whole needs of the native Church at all the centres, for the Church as a whole."

Listen to the generous, kindly message he sent in November, 1883: "As I have lost my right hand by the departure of Dr. Maxwell to Formosa, you must be very gentle with me in my wounded condition. It may be a little healed when Mr. Swanson comes to London in the beginning of the year to take up his abode near us; but, meanwhile, you will kindly take what you get with the patience you and the others have so very kindly exercised towards me in the

past." Then, in 1884, when the contributions of the congregations were behindhand, he wrote: "We are reluctantly compelled to say to you, our dear brethren in the field, you must stay your hands, and undertake no extension for the present that will involve expense, limiting yourselves in every way to outlays that are imperatively required in the strictest interpretation of this expression. There are already symptoms that my appeal to the Church has made an impression. You will readily believe I find this a humbling experience. I do not, however, apologise for writing this letter. Rather do I rely upon the love and affectionate loyalty of every one of you to second the committee in the effort we are now making to bring the finances of the mission into a sounder condition." His letters were always so helpful, sympathetic, and kind, as his treatment of the missionaries always was when they were on their furlough. The first visit made by all, or most of them, was to No. 3, Lombard Street, to report arrival, and receive a hearty welcome home again. When last I sailed for Singapore, I had ten days with malarial fever in London, and he came to see me several times, and, fearing I was not in a condition to proceed, tried to delay the going, but as there really was no risk, on the morning of departure he was down at the station to see us off, as he had seen many of the messengers of the Church before. These little "unremembered acts of kindness and of love" endeared him to every one of us.

8. HAMPSTEAD EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH COUNCIL

February 22nd 1898

The members of the council of the Evangelical Free Churches in Hampstead desire to place on record their appreciation of the noble services rendered by Mr. Hugh M. Matheson to the cause of civil and religious freedom

their admiration of the lofty purpose and unswerving loyalty to Christ which ruled his life, and their grateful remembrance of the ready sympathy and tactful courtesy with which he took part in every movement for the promotion of the moral and spiritual welfare of the community. They will always recall with pride the fact that he presided at the public meeting which inaugurated the council, and that he was its first treasurer; they lament that they have so soon lost the invaluable aid of his wisdom and experience; and they desire respectfully to express their true sympathy with his widow and children in their deep sorrow.

JAMES P. R. LYELL, *Hon. Sec.*

9. HAMPSTEAD GOSPEL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

To MRS. MATHESON

From MR. HENRY E. MILLAR, *Heathdown, Hampstead Heath*

At the meeting of the Hampstead Gospel Temperance Society held last evening, it was unanimously resolved that an expression of our deep sympathy with you in your heavy bereavement be conveyed to you forthwith. The highest tribute was paid to the memory of your dear husband, whose work and example will long be remembered by those who knew him; and it is felt that the temperance cause in Hampstead has lost a friend whose place it is quite impossible to fill.

10. ARMENIAN REFUGEES FUND

To MRS. MATHESON

From MRS. PERCY BUNTING

11 ENDSLEIGH GARDENS *February 23rd* 1898

At a meeting of the Armenian Refugees Fund (Cyprus) held this afternoon, the Rev. Dr. Paton in the chair, the

accompanying resolution was passed with entire sympathy, and I was requested to forward it to you. May I add one word on my own and my husband's account? We had learned to know and love Mr. Matheson during the year and a half of his connection with our committee, and we shall long miss his bright, wise, gracious chairmanship of our committee.

Copy of the resolution passed by the committee of this fund on Wednesday, February 23rd, 1898 :—

It is with much regret that the committee have to record the death of their esteemed treasurer and chairman, H. M. Matheson, Esq. His unfailing courtesy and sympathetic interest in the work, to which when needed he gave valuable time and consideration, are gratefully recognised by the committee. They desire to express their sincere sympathy with Mrs. Matheson and her family in the loss they have sustained.

(Signed) S. M. Amos, *Hon. Sec.*

11. The London Chamber of Commerce

Copy of resolution passed at meeting of the East India and China Trade Section of the chamber at its meeting on the 29th March, 1898, and subsequently confirmed by the council :—

That the East India and China Trade Section of the London Chamber of Commerce desire to record their very high appreciation of the long and valuable services which the late Mr. Hugh M. Matheson rendered to the chamber and to the section in his capacity as a member of the council and as chairman for so many years of the East India and China Trade Section, and their sense of the great loss the chamber and the section have sustained by

his death, and their sincere sympathy with Mrs. Matheson and with the other members of his family in their bereavement.

12. Rio Tinto Company, Limited

At the twenty-fifth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders, held at Cannon Street Hotel, London, E.C., on Thursday, April 14th, 1898, Mr. J. J. J. Keswick, chairman of the Board, said in the course of his speech :—

I am sure you all deeply deplore with us the death of our venerable chairman, who was, apparently, in good health until within about a fortnight of his decease, and who was looking forward to preside at this meeting, which would have been to him a jubilee occasion. He devoted himself unsparingly to the company's interests from its beginning; and, as some of you perhaps know, but for the nursing of it by his firm with financial aid—rare in magnitude and liberality—in its early and struggling years, it would hardly have survived. We shall not soon, if ever, see his like again.

Mr. Young, in a speech at the same meeting, said :—

I have been connected now with this company for nearly twenty-five years, and have to lament, as the chairman has done so feelingly to-day, the loss of our old friend Mr. Matheson, who presided here successfully for so many years. I endorse every word Mr. Keswick has said to-day. If our late chairman had not stood by this ship in the strongest possible manner and with the utmost persistency, and with a character which was beyond reproach, all these years, I do not think the company would

be standing in the position it occupies to-day. We are reaping the advantages of what the late chairman did in those early times, and he has left the company in a good position.

APPENDIX III

Memorial Tablets

1. At Hampstead

The following account was given in *The Presbyterian*, October 13th, 1898 :—

On Saturday afternoon last, October 8th, a large concourse of friends and fellow-workers assembled in Trinity Presbyterian Church, Hampstead. The Rev. J. R. Gillies presided and conducted the service, and the Rev. Principal Dykes delivered an inspiring and thoughtful address. "The Church," he said, "has the highest authority for keeping green the memory of her distinguished sons, and the design of all such memorials is that, considering the issue of their life, we may imitate their faith. In this way the Church grows ever richer in prized and sacred examples, and the cloud of witnesses grows ever denser around our path. The memory of Hugh M. Matheson is very gracious and winsome. No one who knows the history of our Church for the last half-century can doubt that some permanent memorial of his services is called for, and no one acquainted with the past of the congregation would hesitate to say that Hampstead Church is the fitting spot for such a memorial. Outside, in other portions of the Church, and in far-off China, the erection of this tablet will strike a chord; and the memorial testifies to a longing in many hearts to do him honour." The tablet having been unveiled, Dr. Dykes continued: "The life of Mr. Matheson touched a wide variety of interests as an upright man of business, a public-spirited citizen, a philanthropist, a Churchman, and a friend

of missions; but his claim to such a place rests not on these, but on his saintliness. It is as a humble, devout, devoted, godly, Christian man that we would recall him on this occasion. It was this deep piety and close communion with God which underlay and accounted for all his fruitful activities. There is, further, this propriety in recording Mr. Matheson's name on these walls—that he loved the habitation of the Lord's house. He frequented the sanctuary with regularity, and prized exceedingly its hallowed services. He was a loyal, public-spirited Churchman. Catholic as his sympathies were to all who loved Christ, he was a Presbyterian to the core. Never ashamed of his own communion, never tempted to forsake it for more popular or fashionable churches, he was proud to serve in the Church of his fathers and of his baptism. Well did he deserve of her, and right fitly does she cherish his dear memory as a sacred possession. To your children's children for many a day will this stone witness to the services and virtues of Hugh Mackay Matheson." With a few words concerning Mr. Matheson's long connection with, and abiding interest in, the foreign missions of our Church, Dr. Dykes brought his address to a close. Dr. Gibson pronounced the benediction, and the proceedings terminated.

The tablet, which is erected on the wall to the minister's right hand, bears the following inscription:—

In Memory of

HUGH MACKAY MATHESON.

Born April 23rd, 1821;

Died February 8th, 1898.

"When the ear heard me, then it blessed me; and when the eye saw me, it gave witness to me."

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel.'

2. At Strathpeffer

Letter from the Rev. James Johnstone, Free Church Minister, Strathpeffer

To Mrs. Matheson

June 8th 1899

Our congregation have unanimously and cordially agreed to have some little memorial placed within our Church of our dear Mr. Matheson.

Our Deacons' Court have unanimously fixed upon a memorial window to be placed beside the pulpit, right over the door as you leave the church for the vestry, and quite near to the seat in which Mr. Matheson and you sat. Underneath the window on the wall we mean to fix a brass tablet :—

In Memory of
Hugh M. Matheson,
of
Elsick.
Died Feb. 8th, 1898.

Butler & Tanner, The Selwood Printing Works, Frome and London.

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